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considered, the question of doing away with the classification of political prisoners, as this classification is done without any rhyme or reason sometimes? "

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" There is plenty of rhyme and reason in the classification. (Laughter.) The convicting court does the classification, and if there is any complaint about it the Government look into the matter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do you consider, or have you considered the question of doing away with this classification? "

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Yes, it is being considered."

UNSTARRED QUESTION.

Development Board in the Province and its functions.

1 Q.—SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Development Board has been formed in the Province;

(b) if so who constitute the Development Board; and

(c) what are its functions?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) All Secretaries to Government except the Secretary, Legal Department, with the Chief Secretary to Government as Chairman of the Board.

(c) (i) To prepare for the consideration of Government an integrated Provincial Development Plan by endorsing, modifying or adjusting the plans of each individual department, or by putting forward proposals initiated by itself;

(ii) to transform the functional plans of each department into a territorial plan for each district; and

(iii) to keep a constant watch over the development plans of the departments and to control the progress of each district plan.

Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1946-47.

V. HAMEED SULTAN MARICAIR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" President, Sir, I congratulate the Premier on having introduced the budget within so short a time of his assuming office. I wish to point out that prohibition should be extended throughout the whole Province instead of introducing into eight districts only. By extending prohibition, the budget looks brighter. But there is no mention in the budget as to what steps are going to be taken to prevent strikes, which cause unrest in the country.

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" Steps should be taken to further the rural water-supply schemes. The schemes for sinking new wells and repairing old ones should be continued unabated till all the villages in all the districts in the Province are beautified by the scheme and should not be confined to application received till June 1946 only.

" Reference is made in the Premier's speech to the question of improving the rates of pay to non-gazetted Government servants and servants of local bodies. It is highly desirable and necessary that this should be done. In a Press Communiqué in 1945, it was stated that the Government have decided that further consideration of the revision of the scales of the pay of Government servants should be deferred until after the War. Now that the War is over, I would suggest that the Premier should take up this question very early. I understand that proposals sent up to Government in this regard for improving the pay and prospects of non-gazetted managers and non-gazetted Personal Assistants in Madras City Government offices were negatived by the present Government.

" A Salaries Committee was constituted by the previous Government and the question of revision of salaries was gone through. But it is unfortunate that the proposals of the Salaries Committee have been shelved. To create contentment among the large mass of non-gazetted Government servants, I would suggest that the question of revision of salaries should be taken up without the least possible delay.

" As regards the educational policy of the present Government the Premier has stated that educational policy has not been settled yet. I would like to point out to the Premier the importance of religious instruction in any system of education. The pupils of all creed should be taught their respective religions side by side with other subjects.

" I would also plead for the development of roads which are vital for the distribution of food and clothing and the marketing of commodities. Further the absence of any scheme for the encouragement and improvement of trade and commerce is deplorable. I would also suggest the cultivation of more waste lands.

" I welcome the provision for Harijan uplift but would point out that considering the conditions in which they had been kept, the amount provided is not enough.

" The problem which now confronts us all is the shortage of food and cloth. I would request the Government to exert their utmost to remove these difficulties. Prices should be kept reasonably low. Bribery, corruption and blackmarketing should be stopped. Muslims should be represented on the various committees set up in the districts for the procurement of food.

" One word more I should like to add as a note of caution that with the change in the regime, there has come about an outbreak of riots everywhere and steps must be taken to safeguard the minorities from the tyranny of the majority."

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* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—
 “ Mr. President, Sir, first I wish to extend my congratulations to the Hon. Premier for the expedition with which he has prepared and presented the budget and for the anxiety and sincerity with which he has revised the budget for doing good to the people of the Province. Now, Sir, we, who are sitting in the Opposition, here, are not sitting here merely for the sake of Opposition. Whatever remarks we may offer are remarks made with the best of intentions and for the purpose of giving constructive suggestions. Let me assure the Premier that we are as much actuated as he is with a burning desire to secure the freedom and independence of this country and for doing good to the people. But we only want, that when freedom is attained, it should be freedom and independence for all sections of the people. That is our only anxiety and that is our only desire. The Premier knows, there were even days, when some of us were marching shoulder to shoulder with some of those now on the other side, in the struggle for freedom. If that same spirit continues we will be seeing the same thing hereafter also. I am mentioning this only to point out that whatever remarks we may offer are actuated by a genuine desire for offering constructive criticism and not by any desire for destruction. I hope the Premier will look at things in their proper perspective and remove the grievances that we are voicing forth from this side.

“ First of all I congratulate the Premier on introducing prohibition, following as I do the religion of Islam, which prohibits the drink evil completely and enforces prohibition on all its followers. In 1943 when the Advisers' regime suspended the Prohibition Act, the entire Muslim population in the Province protested against it and wanted that the Government should cancel the suspension of the Prohibition Act in regard to the four districts and extend prohibition to the entire Province. On this question, there can be no two opinions so far as the Muslims are concerned. Islam's attitude towards this vice which is the father of many other vices is definite, unambiguous and clear. It is one of the vices sternly denounced and absolutely forbidden by the Holy Quran. Students of history know that when the verses of the Holy Quran forbidding drink were revealed the streets of the City of Medina flowed with intoxicating liquors as every Muslim threw away into the streets whatever liquor he had either for personal use or for trade. Ever since then, total prohibition has been associated with Islamic culture and civilization and Islam is, as was stated by the Rev. Canon Isaac Taylor at the Church Congress held at Wolverhampton in 1887 ‘ the most powerful total abstinence association in the world.’ I, therefore, appeal to Government to extend prohibition to the whole Province at as early a date as possible. Arguments were advanced against the introduction of prohibition on the ground that it would be interfering with the liberty of the subject. Well, Sir, liberty of the subject is not absolute and unqualified; liberty in all cases is circumscribed and limited by the duty of the subject to oneself and to the society at large. A person who has a knife cannot use it as he likes against himself or others though the knife is his own. The liberty of the

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use of that knife is circumscribed. So also a man cannot commit suicide. He cannot do anything he likes with his own life. So also in the case of drink, liberty of the subject is to be limited as it is not conducive either to the individual or to society. If the liberty of the subject is not to be curtailed then the whole of the Indian Penal Code has to be abrogated. Therefore I say this argument of infringement of liberty of the subject is totally unsound and specious.

" Secondly, it has been pointed out that the income from Excise will be considerably reduced and the Province will have to face a great deficit under this head, as we shall have to spend large sums of money on prohibition without any income from that head. Well, Sir, so far as Excise Revenue is concerned, we, Muslims, are quite definite about it. Any income from the drink evil is 'haram' to the Muslims; and we should have nothing to do with it. I am well aware that during the Montford Reform days, some Muslim members even refused to take part in the proceedings connected with Excise demand. For, whatever money we get from this, is tainted money. We want that not only the end should be pure but the means to achieve that end should also be pure. I am therefore anxious that our Province is entirely free from this tainted money.

" Again, Sir, difficulties have been expressed as regards the availability of fund. If Government are not able to find necessary funds by ordinary methods of taxation, they should resort to their borrowing power, and more so, now, when the money market is easy. As regards the introduction of prohibition partially, it is economically not advantageous, as Government will have to keep guard over large extents of land barriers in order to prevent illicit trade. When prohibition was suspended during the Advisers' regime, they stated as one of their grounds for suspension that there was a large amount of illicit distillation and illicit trade in liquor. It is no argument at all. If there is illicit distillation and traffic, it is the duty of the Government to devise ways and means and set up a proper machinery to detect and punish offenders. Then, another argument advanced is that many will become unemployed, that tappers will not get any work and that many other people engaged in toddy trade will be thrown out of employment.

" In this connection, I would like to place a concrete suggestion before the Hon. the Premier. When we say that total prohibition must be introduced, it is not necessary that all palmyra and coconut trees should be cut down as was done in some places during the non-co-operation days. (The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam :— 'This will not be done.') During the non-co-operation days, some of the palmyra trees and coconut trees were cut down in some places, even as foreign clothes were burnt. We Muslims said that we should not do that. We said that the foreign clothes which we refused to wear should be sent to other places. We sent them to Turkey to be worn by the poor people. So also we said that the

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palmyra and coconut trees should not be cut down. The very juice out of which toddy is prepared can be turned to very good use. It is very good food. There is what is called sweet toddy. The term 'sweet toddy' itself is jarring to my ears. In Tamil we do not call it sweet toddy, but with some homely name—பதனி. But English language does not have such name. If we convert the juice into sweet toddy, it has very good value. It can be converted into jaggery. The Department of the Director of Industries and Commerce has evolved a scheme of cottage industry for the manufacture of jaggery and even white sugar from palmyra and coconut juice, and during the past several years some experts of the Madras Government have been going about making demonstrations regarding their method for the manufacture of white sugar. I would request the Hon. the Premier to intensify the campaign of giving demonstrations in the manufacture of sugar and jaggery and thereby turn to good use the palmyra and coconut juice, so that these tappers may not be thrown out of employment and may be retained to do the same duty. The only additional thing to be done is to give chunam or lime coating to the interior of the pots hung on the palm trees. The other persons who are likely to be thrown out of employment can surely be absorbed in other professions. Therefore I would suggest to the Premier to take the earliest steps to introduce prohibition throughout the Province, not minding the expenses that the Government would incur on that account."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of information, Sir. May I know whether prohibition has been introduced now in Sind, Bengal, the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Provinces and whether there is any such item of tained revenue in those Province as Excise revenue? "

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" If it does exist there, I say it is absolutely wrong. I may tell the hon. Member that I would fight for it there also if I am there.

" Allied to prohibition, there is the question of Guindy races. I would strongly appeal to the Hon. Prime Minister to refuse to give licences for conducting Guindy races this year. Hundreds and thousands of families become destitute on account of these races. I know personally how people, who earn half a rupee or ten annas per day, go there, stake the whole amount in the races, lose it and return home. Their families have to starve the whole day. It is said that Lord Willingdon, a former Governor of Madras, who was responsible for the introduction of Guindy races, said that they must provide opportunities for people to resist temptation and that that was why they introduced Guindy races. In that case, there must be many more institutions for training people to resist temptations. It is also said that these races are meant for producing a good breed of horses. I do not know whether there is any connexion between the horses that run at Guindy and the horses that are being used by the common people. There is no connexion at all. If the object is to produce a good breed of horses, that is not at all achieved.

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“ Again, Sir, in this connection I wish to point out another reason. Just on the eve of the racing season, there would be a large influx of population into the city and the suburbs. I am told that more than 25,000 people come to the city and the suburbs, and the problem of finding food for them also will have to be taken into account. At least from that point of view, the Hon. the Premier may be pleased to refuse licence for running the Guindy races this time. I would also say, Sir, that the income which the Government derives from the Guindy races—I think last year about rupees ten lakhs was got—is also tainted money, as tainted as the income from drink inasmuch as the money is got from gambling and out of the miseries of thousands of families. The Government should not derive any income out of the misery and squalor of hundreds and thousands of families. I appeal to the Hon. the Prime Minister not to follow the example of the Bombay Government in this matter. I thought in Bombay the races would have been stopped. There was some tussle between the committee which was running the races and the officials. But finally the authorities granted the licence on condition that the Government should get a higher percentage of income. I am sorry that the Bombay Government should have done that.

“ Next, Sir, I come to the question of education which is important and vital so far as any nation is concerned. I must first of all confess that the entire people of the province, especially in the City, were astonished and bewildered and thrown into confusion on learning the Government order with regard to the introduction of regional languages. When people returned to the City after the summer vacation, they thought that the old state of things would continue. They therefore brought their children here. I know hundreds of specific instances, and if the Hon. the Education Minister was in their position, he would realize their difficulties. When they took their boys and girls to these institutions, they were told that no provision could be made for imparting instruction in English in some schools or in Malayalam in some other schools. A friend of mine searched throughout the City schools to admit a boy of 8 years and a girl of 7 years. He had to admit the boy in the Holy Angels Convent in Mambalam and the girl in the St. Bede's High School in San. Thome. He had to engage messengers to escort them to their schools and back, and thus incur heavy unnecessary expenditure. If the people had been told beforehand that such a system was going to come into existence, they could have at least retained their children in their own places where they could have been admitted in the local schools. After coming over to the City, when they telegraphed to schools in their places, they were informed that the schools were full and that there was no room for more admissions. If the Hon. the Minister for Education had only thought over these aspects, and provided for exemption during the transition stage, all these difficulties and inconveniences could have been avoided.

“ Then I come to the much debated question of regional languages. There is still much confusion in regard to this matter.

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I would like to impress on the Hon. the Minister for Education that the regional language of the Muslims of Andhra Desa and certain sections of Muslims in the City of Madras and in the south is Urdu. My own mother-tongue is Tamil. But there are vast sections of population whose mother-tongue is Urdu. The National Planning Committee has said that the mother-tongue should be the medium of instruction in the country. Well, Sir, if the mother-tongue is to be the medium of instruction for certain sections of the population, it should be the medium of instruction for the other sections of the population also. You do not want English to be the medium of instruction because it is admitted that acquisition of knowledge through a foreign tongue is very difficult. You want to have the mother-tongue. Why not give the same facilities to the other sections of the population also? Already there are in Andhra Desa many Urdu schools where Muslims are being imparted instruction through their mother-tongue, Urdu. Why cannot you say that the regional language of Andhra Desa is Urdu? You want that they should apply for exemption and state that exemption would then be granted. This is an age when people do not come for education. You have to enforce free and compulsory education. In these days the Government cannot expect people to ask for exemption. While you have to enforce education, how could you expect people to come to you and ask for exemption? There must be inducement for the children to come to school. The present system is reversing the whole process. Therefore the only manner in which this matter can be solved is the recognition of Urdu as the regional language in the whole of Andhra Desa, in the City of Madras, and, I believe, in some parts of Tamil Nad. I would appeal to the Hon. Premier and the Hon. the Minister for Education to give due consideration to this matter and not run away with the idea that what they think as correct is always correct. The Hon. the Minister for Education may take the opinion of the Muslim members of both the Houses. He would find that their opinion is unanimous in the matter. I know this thing personally. I have travelled throughout the Province and I know the opinion of the Muslims. If you want to set up a fact finding committee, you may do so, but you will find that what I have said is quite correct. It may be that on account of association with their neighbours some Muslims in Andhra Desa may speak Telugu. So also in the City. The Hon. the Education Minister knows how many times he had enjoyed speaking in Tamil with people, whose mother-tongue is Urdu, on account of the bad phrases and idioms they used. I know also the difficulties of some advocates practising in the High Court, whose mother-tongue is Urdu; they are not even able to converse in Tamil or Telugu with their servants. That is the real position. Therefore, I would appeal to the Hon. Premier and the Hon. the Minister for Education to give due consideration to this matter, and come to a decision as early as possible. I am also forced to say that, as has been repeatedly pointed out in the other House, Muslims cannot take lying down any attempt to refuse them education in their mother-tongue, and that they will have to resist with all the

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force at their command this attempt to force down their throats education through an alien language. If the Hon. the Minister for Education is asked to learn through Urdu, will he be prepared to do that, I ask. It is surprising that at this time when they want to make Hindustani, one form of Urdu, the *lingua franca* of the whole country, they should place a ban on Urdu. According to them, after all Hindustani and Urdu are two forms of the same language. What you want to make the *lingua franca* of the whole country, why cannot you recognise as the mother-tongue of a large section of the population? You are very much interested in the popularisation of Urdu or Hindustani. Here is an opportunity. I put the question to the Hon. the Minister for Education whether it would be possible for him to acquire knowledge through Urdu or through Telugu. I would request him kindly to reflect on this aspect of the question.

“ Now, provision has been made for the introduction of compulsory primary education in selected areas as is revealed in the budget speech of the Hon. the Premier. I would request him to make a more comprehensive scheme for the eradication of illiteracy from the Province as early as possible. Of course the question of funds is there. I suggest that the Government's borrowing power may be used to the fullest extent for this purpose, if necessary. This brings me to the important question of basic education. In his budget speech, the Hon. the Premier has said that basic education on the lines expounded by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh would be introduced. What it is, I do not know. I have been trying my best to get some reliable information or some books from the library on this matter, but in vain. If it is the same as the Wardha system of education or the Vidya Mandir scheme, which was introduced in the Central Provinces, I enter my emphatic protest against the introduction of any such scheme. The National Planning Committee has accepted our view at least in one aspect of this matter, because I read a telegram from Bombay the other day to the effect that the National Planning Committee had come to the conclusion that teaching of education to boys and girls through the medium of craft is spiritually harmful to the people and that therefore it should be dropped. That was the very thing we have been urging. From the very beginning, we have been saying that teaching of education through craft will tend to deaden the intellect and will be harmful. The feeling in the pupils that they will have to earn their bread even while in their teens will produce a kind of inferiority complex in them, and it will stunt their growth.

“ Again Sir, I do not know whether the things which are produced by these children will be fit for sale at all, and whether they would fetch any price. From that point of view also, I say that it is a dangerous impracticable policy. It would be flogging a dead horse, if I were allowed to advance arguments on the subject, because the National Planning Committee has accepted that education should not be craft-centred. Therefore, I will stop with this. But I am not able to understand what the Hon. the

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Premier means by education on lines expounded by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh. I had to make reference to this because yesterday, Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar said that basic education should be craft-centred. Otherwise I would not have referred to that in view of the definite decision of the National Planning Committee. Then, Sir, there must be religious instruction in elementary schools. The world has suffered on account of lack of religion, and not on account of excess of religion. Even as early as 1940, the *London Times* wrote a leader drawing the attention of the British Government and the British public to the lack of religious education among school boys and children and the disastrous results of that policy. Even in England, the people are taking to religious education. Now all of us are following some religion or other. To us, religious education is very important. If you just have a casual perusal of the history of Muslim education in this country you will find that so long as no provision was made for imparting religious instruction in the schools and colleges, Muslims refused to take to English education at all. Only when provision for religious instruction was made, the zest for modern English education increased and that was the reason why the Muslim University at Aligarh was started by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. I remember reading an essay written by no less a person than Sir S. Radhakrishnan wherein he appreciated the conduct of the Muslims in that regard. He said that on account of the insistence not to allow themselves to be denationalised, they had maintained their culture and that the Hindu population which took to this system of education became denationalized. I am only paraphrasing him, and not quoting. Therefore it is I say that religious instruction is very important. It took several decades for the British Government to understand why Muslims insisted on the necessity for religious instruction. By refusing religious instruction to the Muslim boys and girls in the schools now, does this Government propose to put the clock back? We had to fight for 70 years and more for the introduction of religious instruction. I hope that the Hon. the Premier will not do any such thing. A few years ago, there was a committee appointed by the local Legislature to go into the whole question of Muslim education and it produced a report. Certain recommendations of that committee were accepted by the then Government. I would appeal to the Government to pay due consideration to the recommendations of that committee. With regard to religious instruction, I would like to say another important matter. So far as the Hindus are concerned, there need not be any special provision for religious instruction in schools, because in the language text books and history text books, there is abundance of instruction in Hinduism and Hindu mythology. I have been a member of the Madras Text Book Committee for more than eight years, and I have been fighting for introducing at least some lessons on Muslim religion and Muslim heroes also in the text books, so that the children may understand the religions of other communities also. At my instance, though a resolution was also passed by the Madras Text Books Committee that the text books should contain lessons on

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the saints and heroes of the Hindu and other communities and of all religions, I think that resolution is a dead letter now. If at all there is any lesson on any Muslim saint or on the religion of Islam, it would be a distorted version, and the Muslim pupils will have to hang their heads in shame. I myself have been responsible for throwing out hundreds of text books on this account, and there was a slight improvement when I was there. I do not know what the position is now. Therefore it is that I say that the Muslims feel the necessity for imparting religious instruction very much because there is no lesson on their religion at all in any text book, and if there is any reference, it is a distorted version. So also with regard to university education. You find that year after year text books are prescribed and selections are made for prose and verse by the Board of Studies. There are very many Muslim Tamil poets who can stand comparison with the poets belonging to any other community. Not a single stanza or verse written by any of them had been prescribed all these years either in the Annamalai University or the Madras University except on one occasion. I was a member of the Annamalai University Academic Council for six years and on account of my strenuous efforts, they prescribed for the Vidwan course a few stanzas from one of the well-known books on Prophet Mohammad. There again we see how communalism is rampant even in the field of literacy. This is being carried on in the name of nationalism. The majority community carries rank communalism even into the field of education and literacy. With regard to reorganization of education, the Hon. Premier says that it is high time that University education should be reorganized to meet the needs of the country. We know, Sir, that when the present system of education was originally devised by Lord Macaulay it was intended that the students coming out of the portals of these universities should fill clerical posts under Government. That is why we find that most of the students lack initiative and enterprise. It is a matter for surprise that university students consider themselves as a separate class. They feel that it is *infra dig* to do manual labour. I am told by eminent Englishmen that university students in England do not fight shy of manual labour but that only in India do we see these university students fighting shy of manual labour. It is because of the system of education that has been obtaining here. There is something wrong with it and it is very necessary that we should reorganise the whole system of education. Further, the students who come out of the universities are very emaciated. We must give them sufficient physical training so that they may come out with robust health and robust intelligence as both go together. As I said, this university education is not quite fit even for men. But what about the women? Is there any great use in giving this sort of education to women also? I would request the Hon. the Premier to ponder over this question and to devise a proper system of education for women as separate from men. An Englishman who had travelled throughout the world—I refer to Mr. Muhammed Marmaduke Pickthall—had once observed: ‘It is no use subjecting women

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to these tedious public examinations unless they are going in for professions like doctoring and teaching or intend to marry late or not at all.' (Mrs. Mona Hensman : 'Does the present system of education fit men better for marriage?') I am only giving you food for thought and I am not giving you my opinion.' (The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : 'Is that not your opinion?') I am only quoting the opinion of a well-known scholar. I have got my own opinions. If the Government are going to accept my opinions, I am prepared to give them out now.

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"I must congratulate the Hon. Minister for Public Health for taking up the cause of the indigenous systems of medicine and for adumbrating a scheme for their improvement. I hope that all the three systems will receive proper treatment at her hands. I hope also that she will devise the steps necessary for the development of the three systems, viz., Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani, side by side. I know that strong criticism has been levelled on the floor of this house against these systems. Lieut-Col. K. R. K. Ayyangar said that any system must prove its worth. Yes, I can say without any hesitation and without fear of contradiction that these three systems have shown their worth by the efficacy of their medicines. I know many cases, Sir, which had been declared incurable by eminent Allopathic physicians, had been cured by the ordinary native physicians by the administration of these indigenous medicines. At the same time, I do admit, that there is scope for development. These three systems have not developed to the extent to which the western systems have developed. We know that Allopathy has made great strides in this direction and stands at the top of the list, especially with regard to surgery.

"Reference was made to typhoid and cholera. Well, Sir, your saline injections failed to cure many cholera cases. But I know hundreds of cases of cholera have been cured by the administration of four or five pills each manufactured by the Sarguna Pharmacy in Tinnevely. The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture knows it. The cost of the pills is only about 2 annas. I know many municipal dispensaries have purchased these pills and administered them to their patients. It is on account of the efficacy of these medicines, that I urge that a collegiate course of education should be introduced for the three systems of medicine. In the north there is a college for Unani. Here we have got only the School of Indian Medicine—thanks to the late Raja of Panagal, who took a keen interest in this matter and who was the founder of the institution. It is indeed a right move on the part of Hon. the Minister for Health to start a college for the Systems of Indian Medicines now.

"In this connexion, Sir, I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Premier that there still exists a sort of racial discrimination between European and Indian officers in the matter of posting. In certain big towns like Madura, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly, only I.M.S. officers are posted and there too, preference is given to European officers. If a doctor is promoted as

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District Medical Officer from the subordinate ranks, he is not posted to any of these towns. I think, it is time that this practice is abolished.

" Let me now pass on to technical education. Sir, this is an age of industrialization and it is most necessary that we must make further progress in industrial education. In this connexion I would draw the attention of the Hon. the Premier to the very inadequate number of Muslim students selected this year and last year for grant of scholarships for technical education overseas under the Government of India scheme. I would request him to give due consideration to the claims of Muslim candidates, if that scheme is to continue next year.

" Then, Sir, there is a Moplah High School at Malapuram. Years ago, a scheme was framed for the construction of a hostel for the pupils of that school. Now in this budget I do not find any provision being made for the construction of the hostel, but a sum of Rs. 12,000 alone has been provided for the purchase of the site. I understand that the site has already been purchased. I therefore appeal to the Hon. the Premier to see that the hostel scheme, which has already been approved of, is given effect to as early as possible.

" Referring to the rural reconstruction scheme, I may state that it is a very good thing, but the question of Khadi has been given the greatest prominence in the scheme. I had been a Khadi wearer myself and I had spun and worn Khadi during the old days of non-co-operation and I know what it is and can therefore speak on the subject with a due sense of responsibility. It was pointed out yesterday that there was some compulsion in the scheme circulated to the House and some hon. Members pointed out that there was no such compulsion, at all. I read through the whole scheme last night and I find there is compulsion at every stage. People are compelled to spin and wear Khadi. The first paragraph reads :

'1. The Government regard the Khadi Scheme as a vital and fundamental part of their plan to make villages as far as possible, self-sufficient economic units'

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" Paragraph 3 runs as follows :—

'Arrangements will have to be made under the scheme for producing sufficient khadi in each of the selected firkas to provide adequate clothing for the entire population of the firka.'

" Then again—

' . . . There will be at least as many charkas in each firka as there are families residing in it, we shall have, for distribution in the firka, 75 yards of khadi cloth per annum per family, which would enable us to give 20 yards of khadi per annum per adult and 10 yards per child.'

" The following are the extracts from paragraph 5 :—

' (1) Within fortnight from the date to be notified by me in this behalf, every family in the firka, including weavers' families will be asked to equip itself with at least one charka and intimate to the Firka Khadi Officer, the name of at least one member of the family who will undergo training in spinning, if he is not already a competent spinner.

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‘(2) . . . every family in the firka will be asked to produce, every month, not less than such quantity of handspun yarn as the Khadi Officer prescribes for the family concerned . . .

‘(4) Exemption from the obligation to provide at least a substitute spinner will not be granted except for the most compelling reasons.’

“Not only that, even weavers are affected as will be seen from the following extracts :—

‘(6) From such date as will be notified in this behalf by me, supply of mill-yarn to handlooms in the firka will be discontinued. . . .’

‘(7) If the number of looms thus secured inside the firka is insufficient to weave all the hand-spun yarn produced under the scheme, exactly similar arrangements will be extended to the handlooms in the centres nearest to the firka.’

‘7. As the scheme progresses in each firka, the quantity of mill cloth and handloom cloth made out of mill yarn supplied to the families in the firka will be regulated by the Provincial Textile Commissioner with reference to the quantity of khadi which becomes available for distribution under the scheme’

“Well, Sir, if this is not compulsion, I cannot understand what else will be.

“Now Sir, I may point out that khadi has been associated from the beginning with a particular school of political thought. It is a symbol of that school. For the past 25 years it has been so, and why should people be now forced not only to wear khadi, but also to spin khadi yarn? Is it not compulsion? Is it proper on the part of the State to enforce compulsion with regard to the spinning and wearing of khadi? I would appeal to the Hon. the Premier to revise the scheme, so that it may not be made compulsory.

“Again, Sir, looking at it from the economic point of view, I submit, that the Khadi Scheme is not quite sound. Everyone knows that khadi is more costly than handloom cloth or mill cloth. I have worn khadi and I know that an ordinary poor man cannot afford to buy khadi. Even middle class people cannot afford to purchase khadi, and while such is the case, I cannot understand how it is going to help the poor. You may say, Sir, that the poor man can himself spin and weave. May I remind the House of what Gandhiji himself has said about this hand spinning. He said in 1920 : that it (hand spinning) cannot be a full-time occupation and that it can only be a supplementary occupation during the off-season, i.e., during idle hours. It was Dr. Rajan, I think, who said the other day that ‘Khadi cannot develop in any area which is not a political area’. I entirely agree with the significance of these statements, because it is . . .”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“You have forgotten the significance of khadi.

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“I have not forgotten it, Sir. I have worn it for about 20 years; not only myself, but every member of my family did so. I know what it is and I have paid for it.”

* THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“Did you wear it, because you belonged to a political party?”

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Of course the Hon. Minister for Law cannot forget that it was in those non-co-operation days. I was then a more active member of the Congress than the Hon'ble the Law Member himself. (A voice : ‘ Wear khadi and come back.’) The hand of co-operation was always extended, but you spurned it.

“ Now, Sir, Rs. 3 crores have been set apart for khadi work in 25 firkas. Imagine what will be the amount required if the scheme is to be extended to the whole of the Province. I know that. It is not intended to extend it to very large areas, but if it is proposed to be extended, what would be the amount that would be needed for it? I know how I tried to spin yarn and how much difficult it was in those days. Then people could not get such fine clothes as the gentlemen on the opposite side are now wearing. Those clothes used to be made of 5s and 6s yarn. When you ask these people to spin, what will be the kind of yarn that you will get and the cloth that they will be able to weave? The yarn will not have even proper twist. No weaver can weave that yarn. Then you will force it on him. When he tries to weave it, it will break every now and then. That has been our experience. We lost Rs. 10,000 in one village. The Hon. the Premier will excuse me when I say that we have no confidence then in the genuineness of the khadi cloth that was coming from the Andhra Desa. Therefore we wanted to manufacture khadar before our own eyes. For that purpose we invested Rs. 10,000. The Khadi Inspector who came from Ahmedabad said that in our Province our khadi store was the only store which was run on business lines. But still the Rs. 10,000 disappeared. (A voice : ‘ In which district was the money lost? Was it in Malabar?’) It was not in Malabar. It was in Tinnevely. That is one aspect of the matter. The yarn produced could not be woven and the weaver could not therefore give us cloth in return for yarn.

“ In the note circulated in this House on the yarn position it is stated that the three branches of the All-India Spinners' Association in this Province are producing in all only about 200 bales of handspun yarn equivalent to 188 bales of khadi. This production of 200 bales per annum is the result of 25 years of labour, of love and herculean efforts of the three branches of the All-India Spinners' Association in this Province. During all this period of 25 years, it has not been possible to make it a business proposition. It remained only a labour of love. As stated above the All-India Spinners' Association have only been able to produce 200 bales per annum. The present scheme envisages 9,600 bales every year, including the current year. I do not know how it is possible.

“ Well Sir, to put it short, I do not think the khadi scheme can solve immediately our problem of the scarcity of cloth. Instead of spending such a large sum of money on khadi—I would not go to the extent of characterizing the amount to be spent on it as wasteful expenditure as some members of the Opposition have characterized it even in the press—I would suggest that it would be far better to invest it in the erection of cotton mills in this country.

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I know there are applications pending before the Government for capital issue for starting spinning and weaving mills. I would request the Hon. the Premier to fight with the Government of India and get the necessary permission for starting mills and larger quota of spindles for our Province so that we may have more mills erected here to meet the cloth crisis. We must get larger quota of yarn and we must retain in the Province as much of the yarn spun here as possible. That is the only way in which blackmarketing in yarn can be eliminated and weavers given more work to earn their living. The Government must also obtain a larger quota of mill cloth for our Province and arrange for getting then and there the full quota of cloth allotted.

“ Sir, beginning from charka, we have come to the age of machinery. But you want to go back ignoring the accumulated knowledge and experience of centuries, putting the clock of scientific progress back for centuries. Even if there is no compulsion with regard to the enforcement of khadi scheme, the advantage is denied to those who are unwilling to take to it. It is the minority that suffers. The benefit of the money is denied to certain sections of the population. Even as the provision for free and compulsory education we are unable to avail of on account of the absence of religious instruction in schools, we are going to be denied the benefits of this khadar scheme.

“ Next I come to the question of the recent harassment which the Muslims are being subjected to now in various parts of the presidency. Reports are being received about it and the Hon. the Premier knows how the Muslims are subjected to social and communal boycott as a result of their attitude in the recent elections. (A voice : ‘ Louder please.’) There have been also riots in some places. People think that because they belong to the party in power they can do anything and everything. Gandhiji has sounded a note of warning in time. He has stated that such ideas should not enter the minds of people in the interests of peace in the land. I must express my thanks to the Hon. the Premier for his sympathy to us and his ready response to our request to visit Vaniyambadi, the scene of a recent riot and see things for himself and try to remedy our grievances. I am glad he has offered to visit Madura shortly, which is another place where riots recently took place. I wish to urge upon the Hon. the Premier that adequate steps should be taken to put an end to this feeling among a certain section of the population that because they are khadi wearers and because they belong to the party in power they can do anything they like. I regret to see the Hon. the Premier laughing. But I feel for my community. Everyday I have been receiving letters about this or that happening. The Hon. Premier received telegrams yesterday from Ramnad about the disturbances there. There is a feeling of great dismay and, with a full sense of responsibility, I am requesting the Hon. the Premier to take early steps to put an end to this state of affairs. I know he is full of sympathy and friendliness and so I hope he will demonstrate that sympathy in the near future. People have suffered losses to the tune of

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lakhs of rupees in these disturbances. I, therefore, appeal to him to see that due compensation is awarded to them. That alone will produce the necessary sense of security in the minds of those who have suffered and also a sense of responsibility in those who are responsible for the reckless acts. The United Provinces Government have decided to give compensation to the victims of the Aligarh riots and I request the Hon. the Premier to take early steps on similar lines here.

“ In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Premier to another matter. In the past the main cause of the friction between Hindus and Muslims has been the playing of music before mosques. A catena of decisions of the Madras High Court has established that playing of music before mosques should be prohibited during the time of the congregational prayers. But these decisions have been given by persons who, I submit, are not in intimate contact with or knowledge of the practice of Muslims. Congregational and individual prayers can go on in every mosque throughout day and night, all the 24 hours. What we want is not that other communities should respect our places of worship, but that we should be allowed to say our prayers in our mosques undisturbed. I am making this request only from that point of view. These decisions of the High Court have been based only on that right. But there is a fallacy there. They do not recognize that prayers are conducted in mosques all the 24 hours of the day. I am glad that a Division Bench of the High Court in 1938 recognized this point. While delivering the judgment of that Division Bench, the hon. Mr. Justice V. Pandrang Rao has observed thus :

‘ It is clear that the playing of music when public congregational worship is going on in the mosque would practically amount to an offence under section 296, Indian Penal Code, and would certainly be a serious infraction of the Muhammadans’ right to engage in public congregational prayer without disturbance.

‘ The complaint of the Muhammadan respondents has no doubt a certain amount of practical common sense behind it in view of the fact that it would not be easy in a village like Muddanur to know exactly when public congregational worship is going on and there might be some difficulty in the way of the police protecting the rights of one community. Nevertheless though there is something to be said in support of the suggestion of the respondents, viz., to prohibit music in front of the mosque at all times, as a practical solution of the ever-recurring disputes that occur between the two communities, it is not possible to give a judicial *imprimatur* to such a solution as that would be inconsistent with the law as laid down for very many years.’

“ Now, Sir, I request the Hon. the Premier to take this matter into consideration and enact legislation prohibiting the playing of music before mosques at all hours of the day and night as, in the words of Justice Pandrang Rao, it is the only practical solution of the ever-recurring disputes that occur between the two communities. This case is reported in A.I.R. 1938, Madras 305. I would commend the opinion of Mr. Justice Pandrang Rao to the kind consideration of the Hon. the Premier. Any legislation in regard to this matter will go a great way towards wiping out this cause of constant friction between the two communities in this province.

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“Then I come to the question of evacuees.”

* MR. PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member has already spoken for one hour and ten minutes.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am finishing, Sir. I understand that Andhras and Madrasis are now in Burma and Malaya awaiting provision for passage facilities. The steamers touch the Madras port only once in 29 days. I would request the Hon. the Premier to see that shipping facilities are provided to enable them to return to their homes as early as possible. We should remember that they have suffered untold hardships in a foreign land all these years.

“With regard to the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, I am glad the Hon. the Minister for Law has taken the earliest opportunity to carry out this reform. The previous Ministry refused to carry out this reform. I trust the Hon. the Law Minister would remember the discussion I had with him on this question in the corridors of the High Court and my anxiety for this reform. He was at that time feebly supporting the attitude of the then Ministry. I am glad he has now come forward with this necessary reform. It is never too late to mend. (Laughter.) The Indian National Congress for a series of years passed resolution after resolution advocating this reform and the abolition of the Revenue Board. The Hon. Minister for Law has now carried out the reform of the Judiciary. Has he forgotten the Revenue Board? (Laughter.)

“While on this question, I wish to refer to another important matter. I think the Hon. Minister said to-day that all political prisoners have been released. I wish, Sir, he released them with a warning not to indulge in threats. I am speaking of a possible conflict resulting from their attitude to the general public. It is reported that in Tinnevely and Tuticorin, the ex-prisoners of the Kulasekharapatnam murder case indulged in threats to the police officers who were responsible for their arrest and conviction. They also, it seems, preached insubordination to the constables and even went to the extent of saying: ‘We do not care for these things. I am here. Let them arrest me. I will go to Madras and get my release.’ I am only speaking of what is reported to have happened. The Hon. Minister may send for the speeches delivered by these people in Tinnevely and Tuticorin. That is all I request. I do not indulge in any dogmatic assertions, Sir.

“Sir, so far as I am concerned, the tahsildars and revenue divisional officers have been generally responding to my suggestions regarding the grant of adequate representation to Muslims in village committees and have been appointing generally representative Muslims on these committees. But still there are places like Malabar where, though the hon. Member Mr. Madhava Menon contradicted it, our members find it difficult to get adequate representation for Muslims on the village committees. In this connection I want to mention that some tahsildars think that the

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words 'local M.L.As.' referred to in the Government Order only mean resident M.L.As. This causes hardship to Muslim members who represent whole districts consisting of several taluks and even more than one district each. I would request the Hon. Premier and M.L.Cs. shall be ex-officio members of all the taluk and district committees in their respective constituencies. Then alone they would be able to discharge their responsibilities properly.

"Then, coming to the question of the under-paid officials."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"Enough has been said already on that subject."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Only one or two sentences more. I will make a brief reference to the lower division clerks, the teachers and the constables. The inadequacy of their salaries has become very pronounced now when we are told that the postmen who recently went on strike had been getting a much higher pay than the lower division clerks, etc. These people do not get sufficient salary even to make both ends meet. Let them be paid a salary sufficient for this purpose at least."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"I am interrupting the hon. Member only because of my concern for his health. He represented to me that he is not well. I hope he will finish his speech soon." (Laughter.)

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am presently concluding, Sir. I must draw the attention of the Hon. the Prime Minister to the very inadequate and absence of representation of Muslims in the Secretariat, especially in the cadres of Assistant Secretaries and Superintendents.

"I am much obliged to you, Mr. President, for the consideration shown to me."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am not one of those who have been showering congratulations on the Hon. the Premier. I wish I were in a position to congratulate him on the presentation of this Budget, but I feel, Sir, casting a glance on the Budget, if the Hon. the Premier will kindly excuse me, it is only political window-dressing, extravagant waste of public money, breach of trust, breach of promise, and if I may say so, Sir, want of any constructive planning for the future. It is said, Sir, that this Government, having come into power only recently, about a few months before, has got this legacy from the Adviser's regime. But looking at the great changes, looking at the great amounts that have been allotted to various funds, I think it is a lame excuse to say that the present Ministry was unable in this short period of time to do anything.

"Sir, let me come first of all to the most burning question of the day over which there has been so much of controversy, viz., the prohibition question. I am thankful, Sir, and I extend my

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thanks and the thanks of my community to my hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, who took up the cause of the Muslims yesterday, but who said, Sir, that in the Act for the levy of the sales-tax, there is no specific provision by which a particular amount of revenue should be set apart for a particular purpose. I mean prohibition. We have not only to refer to the Act, we have to refer also to the originators of the Act. Mr. Rajagopalachari, the then Premier, Sir, while moving the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on the sales of goods in the province of Madras, on the 31st of March 1939, said :

“Members are apt to forget the real merits behind the prohibition policy which the House has accepted. I take care to refer to this aspect of the matter because unless we keep the motive clear, we cannot justify a measure of this kind, which seeks to levy a tax from all and sundry. If any motive is granted as a reasonable and proper motive, and not only granted as reasonable and proper motive, but has been implemented by the House in the form of a legislation, then it follows that the House has already given us an implied sanction to levy duties or taxes in whatever form it may be, to raise the necessary money for meeting increasing expenditure that they have sanctioned and for making up for the reduction in revenue which they have sanctioned.”

“It is clear, Sir, from this that the sales-tax which is being collected for the last so many years in spite of the fact that prohibition was suspended for some time, was levied for a specific purpose and that was the policy of the Congress. The Congress in its election manifesto on platforms and on the floor of the Legislature, has promised to the people that prohibition in full in the whole of the Province would be introduced.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“In full as well.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Certainly in full as well. I expect the Premier to implement that promise. The Hon. the Premier was a member of that Cabinet, was a member of that Ministry which gave that promise to the public. Now, Sir, I am not speaking as a Muslim. From the Muslim point of view, whatever may be the loss in revenue, I shall certainly say introduce prohibition at any cost. But here, my hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University just now put a question. It appeared to be a very relevant question outwardly. He asked whether prohibition was introduced in Bengal, in Sind and in the North-West Frontier Province, thereby suggesting that the Muslims have not done that in spite of the fact that Muslim religion says that prohibition should be introduced. But let us not forget that in those provinces we are not in a clear majority. In Bengal, we are at the mercy of the Europeans; the Europeans can upset the balance (laughter). In Sind you have seen that the Congress has played the mischief and there the Ministry is not stable (laughter). In the Punjab, there is no Muslim League Ministry. Therefore, it is not possible for Muslim Ministers in those provinces to do it. But even if they have not done it, the Congress is pledged to that policy; the Congress said prohibition, the High Command of the Congress said prohibition, and it is because of that, the Hon. the Premier will kindly excuse me, that he is merely trying to please the High Command of the Congress and with this object in view, he introduced prohibition:

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in four districts and then all of a sudden on the floor of the House, he has announced that in another four districts also prohibition would be introduced. I want the Hon. the Premier to declare that it is his conviction, that he is not being coerced by the party to introduce prohibition at one stage in four districts and at another stage in four other districts. Therefore, Sir, I said it was a breach of promise, it was a breach of promise because the Congress as a whole, the All-India Congress, the Congress Ministries, the Congress party everywhere, said 'We want prohibition, we will introduce prohibition.' And if you have not done it, excuse me, I and anybody else will be justified in saying that you have not kept up your promise. Now, Sir, what will be the fate of the people in places where prohibition is not introduced. The Government is the seller of liquor in one place and punishes people for drinking liquor in another place. In one district there is prohibition and in another district there is no prohibition. The Government auction toddy and arrack shops in the district where there is no prohibition and they punish the people in the very next district for taking liquor. In one district the shopkeeper is given a licence and he is asked to pay money for selling liquor in his district, while in the neighbouring district, a man is punished for selling liquor. This is very anomalous position, I ask the Premier and the Ministry? Therefore, Sir, that unless they extend prohibition to the whole of the province, it is not possible for them to succeed in their policy of prohibition in this province.

"Then, Sir, what is public opinion? If there is any regard for public opinion . . ."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"If I may interrupt my hon. Friend, in the United Provinces, Bihar and also Bombay, they have said that they would introduce gradually and not wholly."

*ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I thank the Hon. the Premier for the information, the common information that is known to everybody. But may I ask 'Is it to be an example for this province to follow.' I want the Premier, the Ministry and this Legislature to give a lead to the whole of India. Because a certain thing is not done in other places, you can feel justified in copying those provinces. I say, Sir, you need not look to those provinces at all. I want that they should look to you for guidance. Sir, I am aware of the greatness of the Premier; I am a great admirer of Mr. Prakasam—call him the Honourable, call him the Premier, call him by whatever prefix you like. I have a great regard for this gentleman for his sacrifices, for his broad-mindedness and for his generosity. But I know his shackles also. He is crushed between the High Command and his party. Here is the High Command which is holding a pistol against him saying, 'You have to carry out this programme,' and there is the party which says, you have to do this. My hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor yesterday referred to the coercion that is being applied to the Premier for carrying out a particular policy. Well, Sir, I may not agree with him in that respect. He felt it was not

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democracy. I say, in a democracy, it is sometimes, the party that leads and the leaders lead sometimes. The Premier is now being led by the party. Therefore, it is perfect democracy to ask the Premier to carry out a particular programme, and the greatness of the Premier lies in the fact that he has yielded to that agitation and that request of the party. Sir, news has appeared in the press and my hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor has taken exception to that. The press is justified in publishing such news. It has to cater to the needs of the public. The public is anxious to know what this party, what this Ministry is doing and what this party which has given so many promises at the time of the elections, is doing. The press has to safeguard the interests of the public and to give correct information. Having myself conducted a press for more than quarter of a century, I may say, Sir, that the press instead of feeling that it has got any superiority complex, merely discharges its legitimate duties. There is no question of superiority or inferiority complex. My hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor knows that his illustrious brother, a very old friend of mine, whom the Muslim community regards as a great upholder of their cause, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, was a journalist for a very long time. When I was conducting a paper, my hon. Friend the Premier also was the editor at that time of the *Swarajya*. We were then feeling that it was our duty to give up-to-date news to the public and we still feel so, though there may be exceptions. Exceptions there are everywhere. Therefore, Sir, the question of bringing pressure to bear upon the Premier with regard to implementing the promise that he and his party have given to the public at large is a question that can never be shelved; it is a question that has to be looked into and prohibition has to be introduced at any cost, without the least possible delay. It may be, as some people say, introduced next year. Well, whether it is introduced next year or not, I will be expecting the Premier to find the earliest opportunity to introduce prohibition in the province so that the poor people may be saved. Sir, what is the object of introducing prohibition. Apart from the spiritual aspect of it, apart from the moral aspect of it, the object of introducing prohibition is to relieve the poor of the extravagance, of the loss of money they have to incur on account of going to the arrack and toddy shops. The saving thereby will be a national saving; it will be a great national asset. Out of that saving, this Government, whether the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues are in power or not, can have a very great advantage. That saving will be very useful for the nation as a whole.

“ Now, Sir, coming to another subject, let me point out that some of my friends have called this Budget the ‘ Khadi Budget.’ I may be permitted to add that it is not only a khadi Budget, but a khadi Budget from a Charka Government. Hundred thousand charkas are being manufactured. What is the utility of spending Rs. 3 crores. It is an extravagant waste of money to spend Rs. 3 crores on charkas in the age of the atom bomb. Somebody said during the Non-co-operation days that the bomb that would be thrown from the charka would plunge the whole of England into

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darkness and India would get independence at once." (Interrup-
tion.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" No interruptions, please."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am glad that there are interruptions. I also said that. Now I stand corrected. I feel I was wrong and I hope hon. Members on the opposite side will also correct themselves. Now I have found out my mistake. (Laughter.) That 3 crores is a waste of public money. If I say 3 crores it may look small because 3 is a small number. Let us say, as an hon. Friend put it, three hundred lakhs of rupees. Therefore it is a mistake to be spending such a large sum on a trivial matter, I would certainly call it a trivial matter, because the charka which is out of date, when people are suffering for want of cloth, when people are not able to get cloth even for shrouds. I may tell for the information of the Hon. Premier that I have got a cutting from a paper, "The Mussalman," of which fortunately or unfortunately I am the editor, in which there is an editorial based on the report of a correspondent that cloth for shrouds is not available for the Muslims, for covering dead bodies. Sir, that is the last dress. Sir, a Urdu poet said :

گھل گیا آخر تہ تربت کفن
ایک جرّوا حشر تک کیونکر چلے

meaning, ' Beneath the dust of the grave the shroud melted away. How can this one cloth last till Doomsday? ' This one cloth that we give to the dead is the last suit. Sir, even for that we are not able to get cloth. How are you going to provide cloth for millions of people by making this experiment on charkas, because you are only making an experiment, charkas are being manufactured and men are being trained, lessons are being given to them in the art of spinning and then you are going to get cloth, I do not know after how many years. I do not know whether your programme is going to be a failure or a success. How is it possible at the present moment, when there is so much difficulty for getting cloth, for the Ministry to carry on this programme, and yet say that this is a National Government. Sir, we want national planning. Requisition every mill, take possession of every mill and take possession of every inch of cloth that any mill produces and distribute it properly. Let there be no favouritism and let there be no corruption. Sir, I alluded to this in the last session. There is corruption. There is favouritism. Sir, the Hon. Premier may say that I should give concrete instances and bring them to his notice. It is not possible to bring concrete instances to the notice of Hon. Ministers and to the notice of the authorities. Yet things are going on. Therefore it must be looked into by the Government. Let them take possession of all mills and take possession of every inch of cloth and preserve it and give it to the people. In this way, Sir, they can help the poor and not by the charka and by the waste of Rs. 3 crores over the manufacture of charkas and the manufacture of khadder cloth.

" Sir, I will invite the attention of the Hon. the Premier to pages 5 and 6 of the Budget Memorandum. I know the Hon. Premier is a legal luminary. He is an expert in law but he can

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not be a master of all. He cannot claim to be an expert in finance. I am going to prove it. The Budget Memorandum says :

‘The estimated net outlay in 1946-47 on State Trading Schemes, i.e., for the purchase and supply of foodgrains, potatoes, and firewood and the opening of depots, the purchase and distribution of cattle food, manure and iron and steel for agricultural implements, etc., is Rs. 689.19 lakhs.’

‘That is about Rs. 7 crores. Then : ‘The acute food shortage prevailing mainly accounts for this large outlay and a sum of Rs. 650 lakhs represents the net cost of food subsidies during the year. The budget provides for the transfer of the whole of the debit of Rs. 689.19 lakhs to the revenue account . . .’ I say this is bad budgeting. You cannot transfer assets to revenue. You say that they are assets and you say that they have been transferred to revenue account and that this amount has to be spent for some other purpose. By conserving these large amounts of money the Ministry can carry out very useful work. As I said at the beginning there is no programme in the Budget, no sound policy, no proper planning and no constructive work. All that is found is transfer of funds from one account to another, and this is the budget that is presented to us. I feel that it is not proper budgeting.’

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“The hon. member must feel thankful that he and others have survived the food and cloth famine.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Sir, there is a saying in Persian :

مرگ آندوه جشن دارد

If all people die together that is also an occasion for great happiness. (Laughter.) If we have survived, Sir, let us say, this survival is not a very happy survival, half starved, half dead and half naked. The Hon. Premier himself has admitted in the last session in this House that there can be only one sari for 10 families (interruption) and eight ounces of rice for each person. In such state of affairs if we are surviving, it is not survival, it is better that all people die, and let a few people live happily and die happily instead of millions living unhappily. I want that the Hon. Premier should set an example in this Province that people can live happily and die happily. (Interruption.) Death must also be happy. It is not enough if you live happily. You have seen and I have seen people suffering. Just now, before I came to this House, I have seen a patient dying, suffering and dying. On what account? On account of the policy that has been pursued by this Government, on account of the policy that has been followed by the Advisers' Government. People are dying for lack of food, people are dying for lack of proper amenities and the necessities of life. I am speaking of a patient dying of consumption, of tuberculosis. Sir, I was thinking of referring to this while speaking on Public Health. But the Hon. Premier has referred to our suffering. I ask the Hon. the Minister for Health what is it that she has done for improving the health of this Province. The Hon. Premier referred me to United Provinces and other places.”

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" You are going back."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am not going back. I am going up. Sir, this is the programme of the Congress Government in another Province. A news dated Lucknow, August 5th says :

' Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Minister for Local Self-Government, asking for a grant of Rs. 75,90,200 under the head " Public Health " in the United Provinces Assembly to-day outlined her short-term plan of development spreading over ten years, in two five-year instalments.

' Our immediate problems are the control of malaria and infectious diseases, the provision of a safe water supply in the rural areas, a well organized maternity service, the improvement of housing and drainage, the improvement of the nutrition of the people, and a determined fight against the scourge of tuberculosis.

' Mrs. Pandit announced the establishment at an early date of two new medical colleges in the Province.

' The Minister thought that in order to produce the best results, it was essential to co-ordinate the activities of the Medical and Public Health Departments under one organization.

' She announced that the Government proposed to establish a newly Orientated Provincial Health Organization, under a single Administrative Officer, who would be the expert adviser to the Minister of Health.

' I also propose, she continued, to have a Provincial Health Board, consisting of representatives of the Legislature and public men to voice public opinion, and a Provincial Health Council of experts, official and non-official to advise on technical matters. In order to give it an effective voice and to encourage public opinion, I also propose that in each district and in all the bigger cities there should be similar Health Boards and Health Councils."

AN HON. MEMBER :—" On a point of order, Sir. Can the hon. Member read from Proceedings of other Provinces."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not the proceedings."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Newspapers can be quoted, Sir. I was a member of the Central Legislature and therefore, I know some procedure and conduct in a House of Legislature.

" I want to know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister for Health, what is it that she has done with regard to the improvement of the Health of this Province, and to better the living conditions of the people of this Province.

" With regard to tuberculosis, I have known several instances where people were refused admissions in hospitals. They are not allowed. Doctors say that there is no room, there is no bed for them. Are the tax-payers, after having paid enormous taxes, to be given a negative reply when they go to the hospitals when they are in a state of ill-health? I want the Hon. Minister for Health to consider this aspect of the question.

" Sir, the United Provinces Government is not a Muslim League Government. It is a Congress Ministry that has adumbrated this programme. I want that this sort of reorganization of the Health Department should be taken on hand by the Hon. Minister for Public Health."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I know if the hon. Member knows what an hon. Member has said about that budget?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I want information, Sir. (Laughter.).

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"Now, Sir, with regard to the opening of colleges, medical colleges, the Hon. the Minister for Public Health gave a reply in the other House the other day that a gentlemen unconnected with the Medical Department has been appointed to open colleges. I do not see the wisdom of such an appointment. Sir, I am not going to cast reflections upon people but I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the circumstances under which people leave their services. Anyhow what I feel is this. People who are experts in particular professions, if they are entrusted with work connected with that department, they will be in a better position to discharge their duty than people who are not connected with that Department. The Hon. Minister for Public Health may feel that she is not a doctor and though she is not a doctor, she is the wife of a doctor.

"Let me come to the Department of Education. I am not going to offer many remarks on that department. My hon. Friend, Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, took up the cause of the Muslim community much better than what any member of the Muslim community could do. As I have said, he and his illustrious brother have always been the supporters of the just causes of all the minorities in this province. I should like to clear one doubt about the policy of the Minister for Education. He may not be here, but I have got this assurance from the Hon. Premier, that he will carry our remarks to him and that he will give the answers on his behalf if possible. Now, Sir, there is this basic scheme of education. What is this basic scheme? My hon. Friend, K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib, questioned about that. Sir, I have been under the impression that the Congress Ministry is pledged to the spread of Hindi in this Province or throughout the whole of India—or call it Hindustani. I have always been under the impression that Hindi or Hindustani written in Hindi and in Persian scripts will be the *lingua franca* of this country. But, now, what is the reason for the sudden change in the policy of the present Ministry, I cannot understand. There seems to be something in it and there must be something in it. To my mind, I do not say it is sinister, I do not want to impute any motives—but I think there must be something rational, something reasonable, which should have prompted this Ministry to change their policy overnight and say, 'We do not want Hindi or Hindustani, now we want regional languages'."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Who said so?"

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"That is what I understand from the communiqué issued."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Nobody said that Hindi or Hindustani is not wanted."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, when the Hon. Premier was a member of the last Congress Cabinet, was there any such thing as regional language in those days? The Hon. the Premier will excuse me if I say that his Ministry had put hundreds of people into jail for the mere demand of certain people for allowing them to have their mother-tongue, Tamil. We have not forgotten those imprisonments. It is there on record.

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Public memory may be short but it is not so short as that. People were imprisoned”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I may correct my hon. friend by stating that people who were imprisoned for carrying on a campaign against the introduction of Hindi and the teaching of Hindi in schools; it was on that account that people had to be arrested when they were carrying black flags around the house of the Premier.”

* MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the hon. Member is mixing up the teaching of languages with the medium of instruction”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ It is to that that I am referring—carrying of black flags around the houses of Ministers. It is a lesson that was taught by the Congress people and it is that lesson that other people had repeated. The Tamilians said, ‘ We do not want this language; it is not our language.’ ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I want the hon. Member to correct himself. He stated that because of the agitation in favour of the Tamil language, the arrests were made and all those things were carried on, but I want to correct him by stating that it is not because of that, but because people wanted to oppose the introduction of Hindi teaching in schools and colleges.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I thank the Hon. the Premier for correcting me and I stand corrected, but I do not find any difference between what I said and what he says (laughter). I say, Sir, I do not find any difference between the two. It may be that for opposing the introduction of Hindustani, people have been imprisoned. They opposed it because they wanted Tamil.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ That is not the issue at all. I want the hon. Member not to mix up the two without understanding the fact.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Whether I understand it or not, the ordinary man who goes about the street only knows this that because Hindi was opposed, because the Ministry was not in favour of Tamil, therefore, people were sent to jail.”

* MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the hon. Member may proceed to another point.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I want to thank the Hon. Premier what has become of Hindi; it finds no place in the Congress programme because I feel that if Hindi is introduced, though the Ministry may not be very much in favour of Urdu, but it will be something that will be approaching Urdu in the Persian script, we will then be having our speeches in Hindustani or Urdu in this House.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Hindi is not gone; it will be coming before the hon. Member and before this House.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ It will be coming but it has not come till now. Now, Sir, what I say is, why do you force people. We, Muslims, do not want to be

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educated in Tamil. I wanted to send my girl to a Convent school. I went there and consulted the head of the institution. The reply she gave me was 'Your girl could not be admitted because she does not know Tamil which the Government force us to adopt now.' Unfortunately, I had to give up that institution. Therefore, I say, Sir, that in the matter of education you should allow people to choose their language in any manner they like. What you want is that people should be educated; why do you force them to take to any particular language? Allow them freedom just as you want freedom for the country and for your house, but you do not want people to educate themselves in a particular language and in a particular style. I am glad the Hon. Minister for Education made a statement on the floor of the House yesterday and it has appeared in the *Madras Mail*, dated 7th August, and it reads as follows: 'To-day, the Minister for Education, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar, announced that Government will shortly take up the question of reorganization of education in the Province and that a questionnaire will be issued to elicit public opinion on the various points for consideration.' What I say is this. If you want to elicit public opinion, if you want to have a reorientation of your educational policy, why do you insist upon these regional languages? Take the public into your confidence and constitute a committee of educationists to go through this whole question and give their considered opinion with regard to this matter. I do not know how far the Minister for Education is an expert on education. Representatives of various communities should also be associated with such a Committee and then on their report a sound policy on the question of education should be adopted by this Government. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister for Education to see that this is done.

"Sir, I now come to another very important question though you have restricted my hon'ble Friend Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib with regard to this subject—it is the question of salaries of non-gazetted officers. After this, I am coming to a very big question which involves not only the salary of the Hon'ble President but also the prestige and dignity of this House.

"Sir, when I entered this House this morning I found this piece of paper over which was printed in bold type 'Over-worked, ill-paid, neglected, starving Government employees'. Sir, there is a proverb in Urdu اندیرا کے نیچے which means there is darkness beneath light. Formerly it was so but it has been falsified by electricity now. But here in this House we are seeing it again under this very Ministry, under the shadow of this very Ministry, people are discontented, discontented non-gazetted officers. They feel that when the Prime Minister can find money, after framing the budget and introducing it in the Legislature to introduce prohibition in four more districts, why should not these poor ill-paid suffering people be paid something more and the money for the same found from somewhere or from some quarters. Now, Sir, what a Graduate of the Madras University who has passed his B.A., whose parents have spent large amounts on his education, gets is much less than what a postal runner in some nook and corner of a

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district of this Presidency gets. My submission, Sir, is not that I am opposed to the postal runner getting that amount. I was once the President of the Postmen's Union and I had advocated their cause as much as anybody else could have done, in the Central Legislative Assembly. But what I ask is 'Are the educated young men who have come to your service to work under you to go discontented in this manner.' Should you not see to their necessities and comfort—where is comfort particularly under this Government. (Laughter).

"Sir, I would refer the Hon. the Premier to the Salaries Committee Report which was appointed in 1944. That Committee submitted in 1945 a report making the modest recommendations for the increase of salaries as follows: Up to Rs. 15, an increase of 33½ per cent, above Rs. 15, but not exceeding Rs. 50 an increase of 25 per cent, above Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 200 an increase of 20 per cent. These increases in salaries are to be given in addition to all other allowances, dearness or war allowance which are now given. Though the war is over, the effects of war are still there. A dearness allowance of Rs. 20 minimum was recommended to all non-gazetted staff. The extra cost of the proposal was estimated at 116·97 lakhs. This is a meagre sum. When 300 lakhs of rupees can be squandered away on Khadi, should not these people get something like 116·97 lakhs. I want the Hon'ble Premier to consider the plight of these poor people. I want a categorical reply from the Hon'ble Premier on this question because you cannot work with a discontented staff. Now, Sir, the same thing will apply to other departments also. While speaking on the Salaries Bill on the last occasion, I said that unless people in every department got increases, there could be no justification for the Ministers and the Members of this House to get increases. I felt it was because it was in our power to increase our salaries, we had it, but because these people are at our mercy, they have to suffer. It applies with equal force in the case of the Police. The Police department—which people fear very much—is a necessary department. The policeman is there to maintain law and order and if he himself takes bribes, if he is corrupt, where is the question of law and order. The reason for all this is low salary. Therefore, I want the Hon. Premier—because I know his sense of generosity, I know he has a large heart, he is a gentleman who will certainly respond to our request because he can sympathise with the poor people for he has himself suffered to consider the case of these people. Sir, I have nothing more to say except one thing which will be embarrassing to you but it is not personal. It is with regard to the dignity of the Chair. I felt and I also feel that it is the consensus of opinion in this House that the salary and allowances given to the Hon. the President of this House must be equal to the salary and allowances given to the Speaker of the Assembly."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"I will be thankful if the hon. Member does not raise a debate on the question."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Section 84 of the Government of India Act says. I want to show the dignity that the Chair of this House possesses."

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I hope the hon. Member will be good enough to drop this matter because it is receiving the attention of the Government.”

* ABDUL LATIF FOROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I shall drop it, Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Hon. the Premier. I, therefore, do not want to say anything further on the subject.

“ Now, Sir, I come to the disturbances in this land. Sir, ever since the Congress Party has taken up office, there have been 86 strikes within two months but not all of them communal. Of course, they were due to other causes—aspirations created in the minds of the people which the Congressmen themselves had been doing for the last so many years. Seeing that the Government in power at that time was not responsive to the wishes and requirements of the people they have created desires, they have created ambitions in the minds of the people, and these ambitions are now responsible for these strikes. Now, that the popular Government have come into power, all these aspirations and wishes should have been given effect to. Now there is a very grave danger in these strikes. They sometimes turn into communal trouble. My hon. friend, Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib, pointed out that ever since the Congress Government came into power, people belonging to the Congress Party have begun to feel that they are the rulers of this land and that they can take the law into their own hands. That is their feeling. Excuse me if I am wrong—What I am relating, I am seeing myself. Therefore, I feel that the law should be rigidly enforced (The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam : ‘Hear, hear’). In this case let me tell the Hon. the Premier for having responded to the call of the people. Even at the dead of night, when people went to him and told him that there was a communal riot in Vaniyampadi he readily agreed to visit the place. No other Premier, I am certain, would have done so. I have seen Premiers and Premiers, I have seen people in their luxury and in their distress, but only very few people could come out from their sleep. Therefore, Sir, on the floor of this House, from this platform, let me thank the Hon. the Premier for having responded to the demand of the Muslims just three days after the happening to proceed to the place and see things for himself at first hand. Therefore, I am sure, that in this Province, we Hindus and Muslims, in spite of our political differences, in spite of our political ideologies, are living amicably, the ordinary Mussalman and the Hindu here feel that they are still living like brothers (Hear, hear). Therefore, I have always felt that if left to ourselves the people of Madras would certainly have given the lead to the whole of India in this matter and would have shown that Hindus and Muslims, who have lived in this country for centuries for thousands of years can still live for thousands of years more with good friendly relation and in a spirit of human fraternity. I want the Hon. Premier to take special care to see that this feeling, that is there in the minds of the ordinary masses of Hindus and Muslims is not in any way disturbed by such ugly incidents. The Hon. Premier and I may differ with regard to the

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Constituent Assembly. We may differ with regard to provisional Government at the Centre. We may differ with regard to the partition of this country into Pakistan and Hindustan but there is, however, one feeling between us and that feeling is that we here, Hindus and Muslims, still feel, in spite of all these differences that there is a tie of local association that links us together; there is still that feeling of human fraternity and love. I may say that I still call some of my Hindu friends as brother and they also address me as brother. Only the other day at 10 o'clock in the night about 15 days back, a Congressman who returned from jail came to my village near Pallavaram, where there is no light but darkness and called me 'Brother.' Sir, that is the feeling that is still there whatever may be our political differences. I want the Hon. Premier—I know he is conscious of it—to see that that feeling is not disturbed, that confidence is created in the minds of the people who have lost their property and who have suffered and I hope that the Government is going to take care of them. My hon. Friend Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib rightly demanded that compensation should be given to people. I endorse that view. There should be no discrimination between Hindus and Muslims—whoever lost or suffered must be compensated. I request the Hon. Premier to see that if Muslims have done any injury to the Hindus, let them be punished and compensation be given to the Hindus who have suffered a loss and if Hindus are in the wrong, let them be punished and the Muslims be given compensation. It is in this manner that you can create confidence. Whatever may be the differences between these communities in the Punjab, Bengal and Sind, I want Madras to be preserved. There is an object in it. The Hon. Premier knows that. Because it is he who, in one unity meeting, said 'We are prepared to give the Mussalmans whatever they want. Let them have everything.' Therefore, I have got some intention, some feeling that Madras is, some day, going to lead in the matter of Hindu-Muslim Unity (Yes, Yes), that this Hindu-Muslim unity should be preserved. I think the Hon. the Premier has taken some immediate steps in this direction; he has done what even a Muslim Premier would not have done. I say this because he has responded to the call of the Muslims at dead of night to which I have already referred.

"Sir, I am now finishing. I do not want to take much of your time but I wish to say one word in conclusion. Sir, when the Budget is going to be presented next time, I would like the Hon. Premier and his colleagues will see that almost all the remarks that have been made by the members of this House are paid due consideration. I know Sir, that this House has no power of voting. I will finish with reminding you about a proverb: 'Those that stand and wait also serve; those that speak and disperse also serve'."

* SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise with a mixed feeling of happiness and sorrow. Let me first confine myself to some of the general aspects which have been the subject of debate during the last two days. I know that so far as the remarks were made against the Budget with reference to several

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heads, the Hon. the Premier, as well as the several Ministers in charge, will be able to give better answers and it is not, therefore, my purpose to go through the several items in the Budget and try in anticipation to give answers to the remarks made by Hon. Members on the opposite side both nominated and Muslim Leaguers in respect of small and big expenditure. But, with reference to the general aspect, I am glad, that there is unity among all the members so to speak. About prohibition, and the necessity for pursuing prohibition, I am also glad, that along with the Muslim Leaguers the nominated members representing several sections also fall in line with the Congress policy. But, one or two remarks of some illustrious members on the nominated side rather puzzled me with reference to their remarks about the aspects of prohibition. Now, I can understand opposition *in toto* to prohibition; I can understand advocacy of total prohibition; but I cannot really, in my humble position, reconcile myself to understanding this anomalous position, namely, prohibition is right but can you abolish prohibition? ; prohibition is right; are you not giving priority to prohibition? ; prohibition is right; are you not unmindful of the financial implications of that prohibition policy?

1-15
p.m.

Especially when Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar took up that attitude and buttressed it with a scholarly presentation aided by his undoubted and inestimable talents, I felt myself under a disadvantage how to answer this kind of anomalous reasoning. I wish to take up his points one after the other. I know I am far inferior to him not only in point of experience, not only in my not having seen various walks of life, not only in my not having been able to visit several parts of the country here and elsewhere; I am also inferior in understanding and ratiocination. But all the same, I venture to put forward certain arguments by way of a feeble reply which can be strengthened elsewhere. So far as the question of priority is concerned, even the man in the street can easily understand that for a nation the first requisite is the absence of poverty; the next is sanitation and health and the third requisite is literacy. So far as the poor man who has imbibed this habit of drink is concerned, the first two facts to be eliminated in any decent society, namely, poverty and ill health stare him in the face. It was also said that this is not an evil confined to the poor but the richer and cultured people also drink. It is not my purpose to address myself to the drink question pertaining to the richer people; they are cultured and they know their responsibility. If they drink they drink the higher quality stuff; they do not go to the grog shops and they do not roll in the streets and they do not make themselves ridiculous in society as do the poor men—My purpose is to show that the first and cardinal principle of any civilised State is to prop up the poor and ameliorate the conditions of the poor. I had at considerable pains to go through the Budget to get at the figures under various items of excise revenue. It comprises eight or nine items. Of these, expressed in terms of lakhs the revenue from country spirits and country fermented liquor run to three digits of lakhs, whereas only three of the other items reach up to two digits of lakhs. If the revenue from wines

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and spirits on the one hand and country spirits and fermented liquor on the other hand are compared they are in the ratio of 150 to 1,150. This huge income of nearly 1,150 lakhs comes from the poor people. Is it just to fleece the poor? Is it not just to improve their condition by eradicating this evil? It was stated that there is malaria, cholera and other epidemic diseases. I believe it was a little forgotten that the vice of drinking and its attendant diseases are of our own making. Medicines and treatment can cure diseases; but how to cure the poor person of his bad habit? It is only by the introduction of prohibition. Sir Lakshmanaswami knows that there is provision in the Budget for diseases but in the case of this poor man a little priority is given for removing temptation from his way. I cannot believe that drink cannot do harm to the richer men. I know so many rich and prosperous families having gone to dogs on account of this drink evil. What is evil to one man is evil to another and so the whole thing must go. It was stated in the other House and it was slightly hinted at in this House this morning whether it will at all be possible to combat this evil. Let us not measure the goodness of the effort by the success. It is worthwhile and useful to take upon ourselves the essential duty of a Government to remove this evil. Even an attempt at it will be laudable."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"It will help if the hon. Member would close his speech at 1-30 p.m."

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"Yes, Sir. Some people say, 'It is possible?' We have seen a peaceful concordat established regarding the grant of Swaraj by the alien Government without any the least agitation and resort to violence in India. In spite of the apparent opposition to our line of thinking, the Muslim League friends have resorted to our own methods of agitation by giving up titles. I was very glad this morning to hear from my hon. Friend Mr. Farookhi that so far as Madras is concerned there is a linking of the minds of Muslims and Hindus not to be found elsewhere. In our country of India nothing good is impossible. It is practical and it is possible. Though I and others cannot live up to that time, History will record that in our country all that has been possible has been accomplished."

"Let me revert to indigenous medicine. I was furiously thinking over this matter and was pondering what the people in this country were doing when the Allopathic system had not been imported into this country. Were there not diseases; were there not cases requiring surgical treatment? Were all people dying when once they got ill? Were not the Unani, Ayurveda and Siddha medicines enough to deal with all cases? I am not saying that the Allopathic system is bad and I am not pleading against it. It is the latest contribution to relief of man-kind. So to say that they must be kept separate and given a step-motherly treatment is unfair to the greatness of the systems and I will not agree to it."

"Taking up the Budget, I feel that due consideration has been given to fill in revenue. But so far as Land Revenue is con-

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cerned, although some provision is made for remissions on a small scale, account has not been taken of the conditions in the Tanjore district with its repercussion on the revenue to be derived from that district from land. Tanjore is the most important agricultural district in the whole Province and only the other day a question was asked of the Minister for Revenue (the Hon. Mr. Karanth) whether Tanjore district was the highest taxed district in the Province. There was no definite reply; but I find that it is the highest taxed district in the Province. You know that Mettur Canal water came only later than usual and you cannot expect the same amount of agricultural income. Further agrarian dispute has raised its ugly head and is disfiguring the fair face of the district. Two Hon. Ministers came to the district; they attempted adjudication but they found that existing legislation regarding industrial disputes did not apply and they could not do much. Mr. Raghava Menon has seen with his own eyes how in Kumbakonam and Mannargudi taluks agricultural operations have not been commenced in vast tracts. The Mannargudi Mirasidars are not able to see eye to eye with the labourers and the fields remain discarded. In a total Budget of seven lakhs under Irrigation, there is provision for only Rs. 7,000 for improvements in the irrigation system of Tanjore and no provision has been made for major works. Can you imagine that there will be proper cultivation returns under such conditions? I appeal to the Hon. the Premier and the other Ministers to attend to this urgent problem at once. The immediate need now is to introduce legislation to the effect that pending the introduction of a final measure to deal with the question, whatever may be the nature of the dispute, the principle of existing Acts will apply. And before that it will be of very much help if the Government would apprise the people by means of a press communiqué that this Government would, in matters of strike, disputes over property and agrarian disputes leading to trouble, see that law and order is preserved. I am not exaggerating the importance of the press communiqués. Somehow or other certain new fangled ideas have taken hold of the people; probably these were borrowed from Soviet Russia. Those ideas are not appropriate to conditions in our own country, and unfortunately they have got into the minds of our peaceful Tanjore agriculturists. Such a communiqué would open the eyes of the people and they would be able to think over things of the past and of the people that have been responsible for the troubles. Outsiders seem to be fomenting trouble. New fangled ideas have been responsible for lack of agreement. Till legislation finally takes shape there must be certain level of wages fixed and that must be respected by the mirasidars and labourers. If this is done, there will be some lull in the situation and there will be no further trouble. Already arrests have been going on in Kumbakonam and the matter should not be allowed to develop."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I would remind the hon. Member that he will have to finish his speech in five minutes. I am sorry. The difficulty is that we cannot extend the days of sitting of the Council and then the Hon. Premier requires an hour and a half for his reply."

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* SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" In the Budget speech the Hon. the Premier said that there would be no further taxation. But now that prohibition has been introduced in eight districts against the four originally thought of, Government may stand in need of finances. For that, I suggest not raising the sale tax, but to find out other alternate sources of revenue. The previous Government considered the scheme of Agricultural income-tax. I for one would beg not to entertain the idea of agricultural income-tax. They may consider in a Cabinet, or in a Standing Committee formed for this special purpose whether it is not possible to curtail expenditure under various items at least for the current year, both from the capital and revenue account. As an example of the way they might proceed, I would urge that they might consider whether it is necessary to retain the Board of Revenue on the scale on which it has been retained up to now. I do not dilate upon it. The second suggestion of mine would be concerning the necessity of spending so much in the construction of new buildings, be it for offices or residential quarters for officers. Then, Sir, for opium three lakhs have been provided. Is it necessary to purchase to this value? Can we not restrict the purchase to scientific purposes only and not purchase for eating purposes? My time, Sir, is limited and this House cannot raise questions of economy in connexion with the voting on demands by way of cut motions. The only course that this may be approached is in connexion with the general discussion of the Budget. I believe not only members of the Cabinet but also members of the Legislative Assembly may be in a position to consider and follow up my suggestions and see whether expenditure on these items cannot be controlled, so that for the present at least there may not be need for imposing fresh taxation. If there must be taxation, I suggest they turn their attention to the betting tax, as race course cannot be abolished and also the entertainments tax.

" I wish to say a few words about administration of justice. It has been stated in the Budget memorandum that litigation is on the decrease. But all the same, more than a crore of rupees has been provided for, which is in excess of the Budget estimate for the last year. The thing is in order to remove congestion and to remove arrears in certain courts, additional judges are appointed. The arrears occur only in certain courts. I am asking the Government whether it will not be possible for the Government to introduce a system of transfer of judges, so that others may take the place who may be able to cope with the work. The second thing is the question of abolition of courts. So far as Tanjore is concerned, I was coming with the idea of pleading for abolishing one of them; it has been repeatedly pressed upon the Government, but so far they have not heeded to it. Wherever possible, additional courts should be abolished. I am placing all these remarks before the public and the House in the hope that they will be examined by the Ministers and also by members of the other house, whose responsibility it is to vote supplies and whose duty it is to see that expenditure is cut down. I appeal to the Hon. the Premier to see that no further taxes or assessments are made without a complete scrutiny of the

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expenditure. We will give our support to the Budget not on account of party discipline, but on account of internal conviction of the soundness of the Budget."

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* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" It has been said, Mr. President, that even the devil should be given his due, and more so we give our thanks to the Hon. Premier and his colleagues for presenting us this budget. They deserve our thanks for certain salient features but there are also other aspects. The Budget is a cup, if I may say so, of things sour and sweet. There are certain good points, and there are some others which are detrimental to all communities. So far as financial commitments are concerned, the present Congress Government is no better than the previous diarchical or bureaucratic Government which indulged in hackneyed replies to questions raised in connexion with it by the members of the Congress Party when they were sitting in the Opposition. They said that they had to cut the coat according to the cloth. The same reply we find even to-day. I will put it to them, Sir, that if the cloth is not sufficient for the coat, intended for this Province, why not since they are very good spinners and weavers—spin more cloth and sufficient cloth and then cut the coat according to needs. It is up to them to beg, borrow or even steal. But the needs of the Province must be satisfied. Coming as the last speaker I am very much handicapped for want of time. I wish to say so many things, but I have to say it against time. This is an occasion when we can survey things from China to Peru or from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas or at least from one corner of the Province to the other. But I am afraid, even for that if you have to travel in mental aeroplane, it would not be possible to cover up such a vast tract of territory. Therefore I would like to confine myself to one or two subjects. First is the question of Prohibition. It was remarked by some hon. Members that Muslim administrations in certain Provinces should have translated their moral obligations into action."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" You are not concerned with that. I wish the hon. Member restricts himself to the Budget."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The history of Islam will tell us, Sir, that in no Islamic Government there was a department called the Excise department. So that is the only point I want to stress with regard to prohibition in Muslim Provinces.

" Sir, Disraeli once said that upon the education of the people of the country depended the fate of that country. I go further and say that the fate of a country or a community will depend upon the nature of education that is given to that country or that community. It is a thing of paramount importance because education forms the foundation of every State. The Cabinet that lays that foundation should take all precautions to see that no community is hurt. There is a crying need for a new conception of education which should be based on social renaissance. So education should be dealt

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with in all its various stages and forms. Every child in the State, to whatever community he or she may belong is entitled to free and compulsory education. It is the prime duty of the Government to see that education is well rounded and is of a practical nature and not lopsided. From the various speeches and from the information given by the Hon. Minister for Education I have to infer that the scheme which he is having on hand is not all comprehensive but only here and there you find certain changes, and the rest of it is the old, old traditional scheme. Now that we are entering into a new era, the whole thing should be radically reorganized, and for that purpose, I am afraid his own experience and knowledge in this direction may not be sufficient. He should have, before bringing such a proposal before this legislature or the other legislature, travelled abroad, visited every country in the world, and he should have consulted every authority on Education, then he should have consulted the local authorities in this Province, he should take courage in his hands, and then alone he should have dared to bring such a proposal before the legislature. There is no use, Sir, in tinkering with vital problems which affect the whole country or the whole community. So far as our Muslim community in this Province is concerned they should not be regarded as merely a minority. They should understand that we have got an international status. Islam is international. If we are affected the Muslim world is affected. This Ministry should not think of laying the axe at the root of their mother-tongue and make certain regional languages alone as compulsory. Every Muslim boy and girl should have the right to pick and choose his or her language, and the parent of the pupil also should have the right to pick and choose any language he likes for the child and there should be no dictation from any quarter. For, Sir, we have got a certain type of background of culture; we have got our own ideals and aspirations which we want to realize, though we may be in a minority in this province. What is meant by 'culture' is not properly understood by many people. Culture is commonly confused, as Shepley says, with civilization. I shall quote to you a few lines about this topic. 'In common parlance the word "culture" is used in the narrow sense of refinement of mind and manners, taste in literature and fine arts. In its fullest and broadest meaning it consists in the training of all human faculties in balanced harmony with one another. Culture has many aspects, as these are human powers, needs and desires. Its utilitarian phase serves to necessities and conveniences of life. Its ornamental phase expresses itself in literature, philosophy and fine arts; the moral or ethical phase expresses itself in moral discipline, religious practice and virtuous conduct, and the social phase in the art of Government, social organization, customs and manners. As related to civilization, culture is partly cause and partly effect.' So, Sir, as regards these various phases of culture we, Muslims, have got a specific type of our own. Of course, I know, that India furnishes a mosaic of cultures and civilizations, but on that account, a particular culture ought not to be sacrificed or jeopardised. Therefore, Sir, I would request the Hon. Premier and the Minister for Education to take great care

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that our culture is not hurt, or our children and our children's children are not deprived of their mother-tongue and it is left to them to choose any vernacular or any regional language. Even if there be one boy or half-a-dozen boys in a school, if there is a demand for Urdu provision should be made for that.

“ As regards English, I would like to say a few words. English, of late, is being relegated, or rather, dethroned from its pedestal. However much we may be patriotic or national in our thinking, we should not be blind to our own interests. English, Sir, is not only an administrative language, but it is something like a window through which we get abundant air and light from all the four corners of this vast globe of ours. English is also a commercial language and it is the vehicle of world culture, as it were. We know that British Empire is far-flung on which, they say, the sun never sets. In the whole of the British Empire, English occupies a very important place, i.e., not only in the Empire but also in the U.S.A. countries like Japan and China are having English as a compulsory second language. Of course, up to a certain limit, mother-tongue or regional language may be adopted as the medium of instruction. But beyond a certain stage in education, Sir, it is in our own interest to retain English. It should be made compulsory at least as the second language.

“ As regards nursery schools, in other countries, every child gets training, though not instruction proper, from infancy. Here we can count the nursery schools on our little fingers. I think it should be the bounden duty of this Government, as it is of any Government for the matter of that, to provide a net work of nursery schools for children between the ages of two and six. No child should go without this advantage. The building should be airy and sunny and there should be ample provision for children to play about; milk should be provided for; mid-day meals given; there should be frequent visits by doctors, so much so that they can have a proper start in life.

“ So far as basic education is concerned, it should be of two types, the junior and senior. In the junior classes, boys and girls may be clubbed together. When they come up to the senior class they should have altogether a different curriculum. For instance, girls should be taught in cookery, laundry work, first-aid, home-craft, domestic economy and such things.

“ When he come to the stage of high school, it should be a preparation for life. For, all education is preparation for life. In the high school too, there should be different curricula, one type to enable students to go up to university education and the other type to enable them to eke out their livelihood and to contribute to the national life, by having a sort of technical training.

“ As regards university education, Sir, we are having now very little amount of real education, for the nature of education now imparted is altogether not so desirable in the sense that education provided now does not enable many students to become

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leaders, or refine their taste or prepare them for research work. So, more attention should be paid both to the quality as well as to the quantity of University education. I say 'quantity' because in England for a population of fourteen millions of people there are about twelve Universities; in Canada for a population of eleven millions there are thirteen Universities; in Australia for a population of seven millions people they have six Universities, while in India for a population of four hundred millions we have only nineteen Universities. Besides, Sir, there should be an efficient medical service staff attached to each institution."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member is reminded that the House will adjourn for lunch at 2 p.m."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I must obey the President's ruling. I will come to the question of Indian medicine and I shall reply to Lieut.-Col. K. R. K. Ayyangar's contention that allopathy and indigenous systems are rural systems of medicine. Medicine, Sir, is a wonderful thing. It is as old as Adam and Eve. Quackery as well as scientific medicine are as old as the hills. The modern system of medicine is considered by some people to be the creation or invention of the Westerners. It is not so, Sir. Medicine is international, not from to-day, not from yesterday, but from ancient times. Sarfor, the greatest authority on the history of medicine, in his four substantial volumes, has proved this to the hilt. While concluding, he has very beautifully said as follows: The 'chariot', he compares medicine to a chariot, the chariot that carries the highest hopes and the noblest thoughts of mankind has been stopped to change horses in the neighbourhood of an inn. The postillions, the old Muslim postillions and horses are thanked and changed. But it is the same old chariot that goes on and on. Postillions and horses may change; the people who ride on it may change, but it goes on and on as the spirit of mankind moves it. [In ancient times the Chinese and the Indians were in charge of it.] It had been driven by the Greeks and the Romans and of late by the Muslims came in, and now by the Jews and the Christians. What does it matter who rides on the chariot, so long as the chariot goes onwards and onwards in the right direction and proceeds to its destination, which is to the benefit of humanity.

"Sir, I would give, before I close, another quotation."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member will stop his speech after giving the quotation."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have no time to illustrate the relative merits of the two systems of medicine. I will give only a few lines of a quotation. Hopefully let us make Oriental Medicine speak the immortal words of Robert Browning, which he put into the mouth of the dying Paracelsus, who was known as the Luther of medicine.

'If I stoop into a dark tremendous sea of cloud,
It is but for a time,
I press God's lamp close to my heart and its splendour soon or late will
pierce the gloom,
And I shall one day emerge from that gloom.'

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"And that day, I believe, has come to-day. Like phoenix Indian medicine is going to rise, and it will be a blessing to humanity then. One word more, Sir. I would like to see the School of Indian Medicine scrapped altogether, and in its place a College should be maintained, and the general qualification of students for admission to it should be raised from a pass in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate to the Intermediate examination. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid there is a lot of feeling among Members that some more should speak. There is the difficulty of adjusting time, because the Hon. the Premier wants to leave at 4 p.m. to deliver the Convocation address. I do not mind allowing one or two members if they promise to take not more than five minutes. I now call upon Mr. Manjappa Hegde to address the House."

* SRI MANJAPPA HEGDE :—"The budget proposed for the year 1946-47 by the Premier is really deficit but for the money drawn from the Reserve Fund. Deficit budget always presupposes additional taxation which generally people do not like unless there is a strong ground for it. But the Government has a large amount in the reserve fund to rely upon when there is urgency and thus the task of balancing the budget is very easy without going in for further taxation. And the budget contains many constructive proposals and sound nation-building plans and schemes on which we must congratulate the Premier who is always enthusiastic and ready to further the national interests."

"The present policy of the Government to introduce prohibition in some villages only appears to be more reasonable and sound. It is always safer to go slowly and steadily without making revolutionary changes in reforming any longstanding social matter. On the other hand, to attempt total prohibition at once without taking into consideration the various difficulties and problems that may arise, such as the difficulty of finding new sources of revenue to meet the loss incurred, the problem of finding new employment to the servants and officers thrown out of employment as the result of introducing universal prohibition and so many other things, is unreasonable. Of course drinking is an evil that must be stopped and checked anyhow. To meet this evil you must find out such means and take such steps that will not lead to other evils and troubles. In unavoidable circumstances, it is wiser to undergo the hardships of one evil than to create many other evils by an ill-considered and hasty policy."

"Provision for rural uplift.—Provision made for rural reconstruction work and for the uplift of Harijans is really commendable, provided the amount of money set apart is carefully and intelligently handled in putting the scheme into practice. In connexion with the

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rural reconstruction work, I want to suggest that instead of selecting one firka in each district one or two 'thirfs' of each taluk might have been taken advantageously for working out the plan, so that each and every taluk may have the opportunity of having model villages and farms to be followed and worked by the other remaining villages. And by this, the whole district may be benefited more, by having more working centres spread out in different parts of the district. This may be done by the same set of officers now proposed for one firka and the village developing officers may have less number of villages to work and they may not find difficulty to work.

"Irrigation work.—The amount of money set apart for the development of highways by the former Government is cut short for the sake of improving and developing works of irrigation in connexion with the 'Grow-More-Food' campaign—Right thing at a right time. The most vital problem of the day is to solve the food question that has upset everything at present. All possible irrigation projects, major or minor, should be undertaken wherever possible. In this connexion, I cannot but propose that minor irrigation works such as the repairing of old tanks and reservoirs of water and putting bunds wherever possible to retain and preserve rainwater for agricultural purposes in the district of South Kanara should be undertaken soon. Side by side, the improvement and development of village communications also must be undertaken. I know in my district there are villages in the interior parts totally cut-off from the other parts of the world during the period of monsoons chiefly for want of roads and bridges; and the improvement of village communication is one of the items in the rural reconstruction work which however must not be neglected by the Government.

"Education.—The Government appear to be more keen and eager as regards the spread of elementary education. Provisions are made for compulsory education in schools with midday meals for the boys attending such schools. But this policy is not universally adopted throughout the district and such experiments are confined only to some selected areas. The spread of elementary education by opening more schools in all parts of the district is not yet undertaken. On the other hand, according to the Administration Report of 1944-45 it is seen that the number of elementary schools have been decreasing year after year since 1936 due to reasons not known well to the public. I know that in South Kanara there are many villages in Puttur, Kasaragôd and Coondapoor taluks, where there are no elementary schools and the boys of those villages are brought up without any education. Therefore, Sir, I strongly urge the Government to see that more elementary schools are being opened in the interior villages of the district. And I am glad that some provision is made in the budget to this effect.

"The scope provided for higher education in South Kanara is not at all satisfactory. I see grants are given liberally to Universities and colleges in other parts of the province but nothing is done nor proposed for South Kanara, though there has been continuous

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cry since a very long time for raising the present second-grade Government College at Mangalore into a first-grade college and also to found a new second-grade college at Udipi, the next big city in the district. Therefore I strongly appeal, Sir, to the Government to take immediate steps to raise the Government College at Mangalore to first grade and to add one more college to the same district. This is quite essential now when there is a rush of students into the colleges for higher education and refusal of admission at the same time by the colleges. The whole West Coast is neglected in the matter of providing education, engineering, medical, etc. The answer given by the Hon. Minister for Education the day before yesterday to some supplementary questions about the location of the Engineering College was disappointing and unsatisfactory. So I request that due consideration must be given to the needs of the West Coast in this matter.

*“ Temple funds.—*The proposal to divert the surplus funds of religious trusts to establish educational institutions is not at all good. What kind of education such educational institutions will impart, and in which places such new educational institutions will be located, are not mentioned clearly. To apply the funds of religious institutions for any kind of education will be resented by the public strongly. If the Government intends to open residential schools or ‘ Gurukulas ’ for Indian boys to study Oriental learning and to get trained in Hindu culture, and spend surplus funds on that account, it is good; but on the other hand taking surplus money of religious institutions situated in one part of the province and using it in other parts of the province for imparting mere secular education is really objectionable.

*“ Anti-malaria work.—*In the budget there is no special provision made for anti-malarial measures in South Kanara though the research work on malaria was completed in some villages in Puttur taluk last year, whereas there is provision for the same kind of work elsewhere in the province. It is regrettable, Sir, even in case of health, the South Kanara district situated in a corner of the province is neglected. I know, Sir, that in many villages there are no dispensaries, nor any kind of medical aid is provided for the poor villagers. This negligence on the part of Government is intolerable. Therefore, I most respectfully request the Government to do the needful in this matter.

*“ Support to Ayurveda.—*I am glad to learn the Government is going to give support and encouragement which is long due to our Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicines. Unless State aid is forthcoming, there is no hope for these systems of medicines being brought on to a perfect and scientific basis. I thank the Hon. Minister for Health for this bold step taken in the face of strong and bitter criticisms by an interested section of the public.”

* **RAO BAHADUR D. KRISHNAMURTI:—**“ I congratulate the Hon. Premier for presenting to us a very interesting budget, though no doubt it is a deficit budget. The deficit is further increased by the introduction of prohibition in four more districts and the Government has therefore committed itself to a total prohibition policy. I, no doubt, most heartily agree with the principle that prohibition should be one of the foremost objectives of any civilized

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Government. But I would allocate prohibition in the order of preference to eighth place (taking into consideration our needs and necessities). Taxes are paid by the people for certain purposes and the machinery of Government is intended for the allocation of the taxes so collected. There are some elementary principles of public finance which every civilized Government should conform to. I would commend the following order of urgency: food, clothing, shelter, sanitation and health, protection of life and property, individual liberty, education and then prohibition. To-day, we are in a very pitiable state with regard to our food, ration of food, insufficient food, imperfect food are the order of the day. About cloth insufficiency much has been said already and I do not want to take up your time over it again. With regard to sanitation and public health in our country, I would just like to draw your attention to a few facts and figures. There is one doctor for 1,000 in England while there is one doctor for 8,000 in India. There is one nurse for 56,000 persons in India and there is one nurse for 300 in England. There is only 0.24 beds for 1,000 people in India. In this country our death rate is appalling. Average expectation of life in India is 27 years while it is 63 in England. Within the first year of birth 167 children die out of 1,000 while 55 only die out of 1,000 in England. Large toll is taken by merciless diseases like malaria, cholera and plague. Is it not one of the primary functions of the State to indicate the policy and plan an effective programme to combat this appalling menace of civilization and human life? In the circumstances is it fair that prohibition should be assigned the very first place in the budget? The next point I want to urge upon the attention of Government is the liquidation of illiteracy. It is a very chronic problem. Time and again, it has been emphatically urged on public platforms by every leader of Congress. This was a subject of great controversy at the time when Mr. Gopalakrishna Gokhale introduced his Elementary Education Bill. Just by way of comparison, may I state that in Travancore the percentage of educated is 41 among males and 17 among females whereas in British India it is 17 per cent and 3 per cent respectively. This is what is now obtaining on this side of Shencottah in the British territory. What are the steps that are now being taken to reduce illiteracy and to finally liquidate illiteracy, which is one of the primary items in Congress programme. I know, Sir, it cannot be done by a mere stroke of the pen. I want to emphasize this liquidation of illiteracy with reference to rural uplift and also prohibition programmes. By committing themselves to total prohibition, the Government with one stroke of the pen are cutting away about 16 crores of their income. Income from sales tax is expected to be only about 6 crores. Assuming for argument that the particular tax has been levied only to replace the loss of revenue caused by total prohibition, you have to meet another 8 crores from State revenues as you have committed yourself already to it. The two great programmes of rural reconstruction and Harijan uplift do require money—more money and more money. Here again I have yet to ask for the details of their working. With regard to khadi

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* MR. PRESIDENT :—“ This point has been put forward over and over again.”

* RAO BAHADUR D. KRISHNAMURTI :—“ Then I leave it, Sir, and proceed to another topic.

“ Sir, in the note submitted to this House, mention is made about a diversion of surplus temple funds for educational purposes. I have been studying this problem for a long time. I know the circumstances and conditions under which contributions are made by the devotees to the various temples either in the *hundials* or by way of grant of inams for certain purposes. If there is any saving in these collections in any particular institution, the primary duty of Government should be to spend the surplus funds for that particular denomination or religious culture for such religious propaganda, religious education and not for secular education. It is only when there are surplus funds after meeting such necessary demands, the question of diverting funds for secular education may arise. In this connexion, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Tirupati devasthanams management have not yet published an authorized book with regard to Venkateswara Sahasranamam with commentary in Telugu, Tamil and English as they should. There are such commentaries published for Lalitha Sahasranamam, the Vishnu Sahasranamam in different languages by individuals. The Tirupati devasthanam people till now have not made any attempt to bring out such religious publications. When this is so even in the case of Tirupati, may I ask is it just and proper to divert funds of this kind for establishing secular colleges where no religious instruction is imparted and where religion is practically forgotten. Instead of diverting the funds you must legislate to use all surplus funds for purposes for which money was paid by the devotees.

“ Another important subject on which I want to say a few words is about non-gazetted servants. The Hon. the Premier has stated that he has extended prohibition from 4 to 8 districts involving an additional expenditure of about 3 crores over his original budget because his party-men wanted the same. An expenditure of 117 lakhs as suggested by the Strathie Committee which went into the whole question last year would very much alleviate the grievance of a lakh of people who are really undergoing a very serious hardship. In pre-war world conditions, things were different. Fifteen rupees dearness allowance is hardly sufficient to make both ends meet. The postal workers and railway workers and rickshaw-pullers have succeeded by strikes and threatened strikes and improved their lots. I hope the Hon. Premier will not be driving them to the absolute necessity of striking work. This is a real grievance and requires immediate attention.”

* SRI A. GOPALAKRISHNIAH :—“ అధ్యక్షా, యిప్పుడు యీ బడ్జెటులో వ్యవసాయమునకు తగినటువంటి ప్రావిషను (provision) ఏక్కడచేసినట్లు కనుపించడం లేదు. అది చాల యింపార్తెంట్లు (important) అయిన విషయము. ఆరు కోట్ల జనానికి ముఖ్యముగా ఆహారము కావలసిన, యితర దేశములకు ద్రవ్యమివ్వడము

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(deputation) పంపి, హెచ్చుధరలకు ధాన్యమునుకొని, మన దేశములో యితర దేశముల ధాన్యమును ఆమ్మేదానికంటే మన దేశములో పంట అభివృద్ధికి తగినట్టి ప్రావిజను ఏ విధమైనది యీ బడ్జెటులో చూపలేదు.

“రైతులు యిప్పుడు చాలా భాగ్యవంతులైనారు అని అభిప్రాయం (officials) లలో ఒక పెద్ద అభిప్రాయము వున్నది. ప్రతి విలేజి (village) లో రైతులు ధాన్యమును పండించి, ఆ విలేజిలో తమకు కావలసినవన్నీ విజారానుడి కొనవలసిందే. అన్ని వస్తువులకు యిప్పుడు రెట్టింపు నాల్గి అయిదురెట్లు ధర అయినది. కాపున, రైతులు యిప్పుడు దివాలాకు వచ్చుచున్నారు. వైస, మార్కెట్టు యిక్కడకువచ్చి అప్పులు యిచ్చుచున్నారు. నూరు రూపాయలకుగాను 93 రూపాయలు మాత్రమే అప్పుగా యిచ్చి, 7 రూపాయలు ముందుగా వడ్డీ తీసుకొనుచున్నారు. ఇటువంటి ప్రైవేటు రెండింగు (private lending) లేకుండా, గవర్నమెంటు దీనిని అచాలిషు (abolish) చేయవలెను. కో-ఆపరేటివ్ ద్వారా రైతులకు అప్పులు యిప్పించవలయును.

“తరువాత, యిప్పుడు మా జిల్లాలో గ్రౌండునట్టు (groundnuts) 40 వేల బస్తాలు గవర్నమెంటువారుకొని కాలికటు (Calicut) కు పంపినారు. మా జిల్లాలో యిప్పుడు మెన్యూరు (manure) లేదు. ఆగ్రికల్చరలు ఆఫీసరు (Agricultural Officer) వద్దకువెళ్లి మెన్యూరు అడిగితే వంద బస్తాలు మాత్రమే యిస్తానన్నారు. నాకువున్న వెయ్యి ఎకరముల భూమికి యిది ఏమి చాలును? ఈ విధముగా మా జిల్లాలో యీ గవర్నమెంటువారు యిప్పుడు ఎరువు లేకుండా చేసినారు. డెబ్బ ప్రాంతాలకు ఆగ్రికల్చరలు డిపార్టుమెంటువారు ఎవ్వరు యింతవరకుగాలేదు. భూమి నన్ను చూస్తే నిన్ను నేను చూస్తాననే సామెతేవుంది. మన యజమానులు యిప్పుడు యీ విషయంచూస్తే తప్ప, మాకు ఏమి లాభము లేదు. ఇప్పుడు మినిస్టర్స్ (Ministers) మా యజమానులు.

“కృష్ణా డెబ్బలో మొన్న 5, 6 రోజులు వర్షము కురిసింది. చాలా భూమి మురుగు పడింది. చాలా చోట్ల యీ సంతత్యరిం మురుగు కాలువలలో మన్ను తీయ లేదు. నా కళ్లతో చూచినాను. ఓడబ్బట్టి. ఇరిగేషన్ బోర్డు (P.W.D. Irrigation Board) లో నేనుకూడా ఒక మెంబరుగా నాల్గి అయిదు సంతత్యరిం మురుగు వున్నాను. ఈ మురుగు కాలువలలో ఒకవిధమైన విలండ్సు (islands) ఫారము (form) అవుతూ వున్నవి. వాటిని తీయించమని చాలా రిజల్యూషన్స్ (resolutions) వున్నాయి. వాటిని ఎవరు అమలు జరుపలేదు. డెబ్బలోన్నీ యీ స్థితిలోనే వున్నాయి. ‘గ్రో-మోరు-ఫుడ్’ (‘Grow-more-food’) కు అవి చాలా అవసరమైనవి. వంట భూమికి నీరు ఎంత అవసరమా, మురుగు నీరు పోవుచుకు కూడ అంత అవసరమే. ఈ డెబ్బలలో వంటకాలువలు సకాలంలో మరమ్మత్తు చేయించాలి. గవర్నమెంటువారు యిచ్చుచున్న కూలీ రేట్లు యిప్పుడు గజానికి రెండు అణాలు లేక రెండణాలన్నర వుంది. ఈ రేటుకు ఎవ్వరు రారు అందుచేత ఆ రేట్లుకూడ యింపువుచేసి, డెబ్బలో పంట కాలువలు త్రవ్వించవలెనని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఇంకొక విషయముకూడ చెప్పతాను. పామర కాల్య రి మైక్స్ త్రవ్వించితే, 16 వందల రూపాయలు ఖర్చు అయినాయి. కాని గవర్నమెంటువారు 5 వందల రూపాయలు మాత్రమే యిచ్చినారు. ఈ విధమైన కష్టాలు రైతులు ఎన్నో వడుతూ వున్నారు. కాని, రైతులు యిప్పుడు ఏమా భాగ్యవంతులయినట్లు అనుకొంటూ వున్నారు. గవర్నమెంటు వుద్యోగస్థులకు యిచ్చిన జీతాలుకూడా వాళ్లకు యిప్పుడు దొరికడంలేదు. వారి ఆస్తులనుకూడా వాళ్ల గొద్దిరోజులలో అమ్మించుకొని పాచ్చి స్థితిలో వున్నారు.

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“ రీ సెటిల్ మెంట్ రేట్లు (re-settlement rates) గత కౌన్సిలు మంత్రివర్గములో మిసిస్టరుగా వుండిన ప్రకాశం పంతులుగారు రీ సెటిల్ మెంట్ రివిజను చేస్తామని అన్నారు. గాని, గత 38 వ సభవర్షమువరకు రీ సెటిల్ మెంట్ యింటర్ డ్యూటీ (introduce) చేయలేదు. అంతలో మిసిస్టరు రాజీనామా ఇచ్చినారు. వార్ (war) కూడా వచ్చింది. అప్పుడు కాలంలో రీ సెటిల్ మెంట్ రేట్లు అమలు జరిపినారు. మా డెబ్బలో 20, 22 % లు దానిమీద వచ్చించిన డబ్బుకు యింటర్ రెస్టు (interest) గట్టుతూ వుంది. రేట్లు మార్చిస్తే (modify) చేస్తానని మిసిస్టరు గారు వాగ్దానము చేసినారు. అది చేయవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. నేల్సు టాక్సు, ల్యాండు టాక్సు (Sales tax, Land tax) వేస్తూవున్నారు అని వేషంలో వున్నది. ల్యాండు టాక్సు వేస్తే, మీరు చెప్పిన ‘నాను-కో-ఆపరేషను’ (non-co-operation) రైతులు చేస్తారు. ఎక్స్ సైజులో 16 కోట్లు నష్టం వచ్చును గనుక నేల్సు టాక్సు 16 కోట్లు విచ్చేవరకు నేల్సు టాక్సు ఎక్కువ చేయండి.

“ రైతుల డబ్బుతో యీ దేశాన్ని అంతా అభివృద్ధిచేయవలెనని ప్రయత్నించుతూ వున్నాను. రైతులను నాశనము చేయకండి. రైతులు మీ పెద్ద బిడ్డలు అనుకొని వాళ్లని పోషించండి. ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Sir, I must at the very outset thank all hon. Members who have made the best possible contribution to the debate. When they were criticizing the budget, they were doing so with the object of enabling the Government to examine the position taken up by them. Sometimes there would be points to which some members would not be reconciled at all, or make any suggestions for improving the budget proposal. With those friends, the Government will have no quarrel but it will be the duty of Government to do their best to convert them to their view if not to-day, if not to-morrow, some time later. The circumstances under which this budget was prepared were not known to the hon. Members of the House. The time during which my colleagues and I have been engaged in this Government business is not also kept in view sometimes by some members. I may tell you, Sir, that if we had not interfered with the proposals drafted by the Finance Department, if we had not put them to very great strain, the budget would have been made ready easily. But it would not have been our budget. The first half-year it was the Adviser Government's. They had completed their work in the period during which they were in office. If we took it up it became our duty to study the whole thing as it was set up by the Advisers' Government and make our own proposals.

3 p.m. “ After we assumed office, it became our duty to study the whole thing and recast the Advisers' Budget in accordance with our programme. In that way, there was considerable trouble caused to the Finance Department by us and from our side. We were thrusting upon the departments new proposals from time to time. We needed time to understand the scheme of the Advisers' Budget and we had to make our own proposals. It was not an easy job for us. We were starting afresh. We had no continuous touch with financial matters. We were in office for two years and three

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months and then we went into the wilderness for which my hon. friend Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar administered a mild rebuke to us. We had no alternative left. It was not a matter of a single day or a single month. For 25 long years this work has been carried on by the Congress on the lines it had chalked out. But for this continuous struggle for over 25 years backed up by the people of the land, we would not have been able to reach even this stage today. This country has been made what it is now, not alone by the efforts of those of us who had been thrown into jails or who had courted imprisonment. Nations are not made by single individuals, but by the full co-operation of all. We recognize this fact, whether others do so or not. I for my part could imagine from inside the jail walls, how the public outside had been standing by the country giving their full support for the achievement of the goal. But for that we would not have progressed to this extent. There were no doubt difficulties and struggles. There were persons who launched attacks against the Congress. They carried on a campaign not only against the Congress but against the whole population of India that had interested itself in achieving freedom. Today we are told by Hon. Members who are expressing concern at the present developments that the moment we took up the reins of administration, strikes started, riots broke out and all kinds of troubles have developed. 'How do you meet this situation?' that is the question put to us. It is a very pertinent question indeed. Hon. Members will not be able to understand, but I do, the cause of the present-day troubles. There is no use your vehemently condemning the Government that assumed power the other day. Just pause a while and consider from what period this trouble started in this country of ours. It started from the time we launched a campaign when all Congressmen were thrown into jails without exception. Those who were outside, if they had simply kept quiet, there would have been no trouble for the Congress when it came in. But it was not so. As you know, and as every hon. Member of this House knows, it was not so. Some people formed themselves into parties thinking that it was the best opportunity to hang the Congress that was in jail and carry on propaganda against it. They did their worst against the Congress. One section, one party that was in the Congress until the last struggle of 1942, started claiming that they were persons who were going ahead of the Congress and that the Congress was a timid body and that it was putting forth only halting steps. That section turned against the Congress. They were Congressmen until then but they turned against the Congress and said that it had been doing wrong things and that whatever it did was wrong. It is that section, Sir, that carried on during the three years when the Congress was in jail and the outside public was not able to do anything to get them released. It is that section that had been engaged in carrying on propaganda against Congress in various ways. It is that section that went from village to village and occupied every point of vantage. And why? For getting at the ignorant people living in the villages of whom we ourselves had not taken proper care at the appropriate time. The members of that party went to these villagers and told them that the Congress was a useless

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body, the Congress could never deliver the goods and that they would be able to do so. Therefore they said that people should follow their advice and lead. It is that advice that is now bearing fruit. It is a big thing. I do not like to take the time of the House at this stage recapitulating these things in detail. But what is the situation with which we are faced? We are greeted with strikes and with all sorts of agitations. Are we to run away from our post of duty or are we to face the situation, and overcome the troubles created for all of us and to the Congressmen in particular? We are not people who will shirk our responsibilities whatever the troubles. We are not people to hesitate to risk anything to govern and to do justice to the people without making any distinction between one section and another.

“ Now, Sir, during all these three months I invite hon. Members to look into the records and see how this Government has been dealing with all these people who had been attacking the Congress and also the present Government. I repeat, we make no distinction between section and section and party and party in any matter and also in the matter of releasing prisoners. Of course, we know what it means to be very liberal and impartial. Therefore I am appealing to those friends who have gone the wrong way now and who have been engaged in fomenting troubles and organizing strikes, not to become vehement and not to lead the strikers to the gates of Fort St. George and threaten the Government here in this very House, saying “ If you do not do that by such and such a date, we will take such and such action ”. I have been facing all these things during these three months along with my friends. You must note that we are not here in our personal capacity to do something for our own selves or for our friends. We are here for the sake of the public; we are here for doing our duty fearlessly, at the same time in a just and equitable manner. Have we deserved these strikes? Have we deserved these warnings? We are on the threshold of freedom. The establishment of freedom in this country means the establishment of the freedom of the people and not of these Ministers who may be here to-day and who may go out of office to-morrow. Why, when we are passing through difficult times with thousands of workers thrown out of employment, do these friends march through the streets of Madras to Fort St. George and try to express their own troubles? We are facing all kinds of trouble. It is not the mistake of the workers and it is not the fault of the public that there is this commotion. The mistake is due to the action of those who thought that by putting pressure upon the Government they would be able to get something for themselves even though it might be most inconvenient for the Government to stretch out a helping hand.

“ Now, Sir, so much has been said about the under-paid Government servants and all others. Have we not been aware of that fact? Have we ever rejected their claims? We only want a little time to consider the whole matter and decide to what extent we could go and when we could go. If one section is given something, say Rs. 2 per month by way of increment, by itself it may be a small thing, others will ask for the same thing. Have you

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ever heard of a thing like that, always constantly, every section, every organization in the country, business or other, led by some leaders declaring a strike if you do not yield to their demands? What is meant by a strike? Is this the way in which you are going to govern to-morrow if you are put in this place? Will it be possible for any Government to get along if people are to be led in this manner? There should be a limit to these threats. That is why Mahatma Gandhi wrote recently on the question of these strikes an article to the 'Harijan' an advance copy of which was published in yesterday's papers. Gandhiji says there :

'When your Government is just beginning to function you should not enter upon strikes. You should do things calmly for some time.'

"What is happening is that no breathing time is allowed to us. From morning till evening we are made to think only of strikes and of marshalling the forces of police to deal with any critical situation that may be developing in this or that part of the Province. This is not the way that the leaders of these organizations should do their work. They should try to help the Government.

"For full two months we worked at breakneck speed hurrying up the Finance Department, putting our ideas together and brought out this budget in such a short time. The Finance department of Madras, of all the Finance departments of Governments in India, is well-known as one of the ablest possessing expert knowledge to manage everything that is connected with Finance. Sir, I am not an expert in Finance and I cannot become one overnight. But the elementary rule that block grants should not be voted in lump sums is known to everybody. That there must be schemes first and that the whole thing must be explained in detail is known to everybody. When I suggested certain schemes for being included in the budget from an outside station, the Finance Department wrote to me :—'Well, Sir, your scheme has just come in; it is a long thing. If we are to put it in print, the preparation of the budget will be delayed. We cannot propose lump sum voting.' Are they foolish men? Did they not know the existence of such a rule? In the other House an attack was launched against these grants on the presumption, despite explanations given from time to time, that we were starting a new principle. I spent some time in explaining the whole thing to the other House. This was what happened when I sent the scheme to the Finance department. They said 'Well, Sir, your policy is this. Your idea is this. You cannot under the rules vote for lump sums. The only way in which the Ministerial intention or policy can be carried out is by taking the money, earmarking it and constituting in that way a Fund from which you can take money for the scheme as and when necessary. If, at the end of the year, you are not able to use up the whole thing any balance remaining could be used in the succeeding year.' This is a recognized legal method of financing schemes. The department proposed this and wrote to me like that. If they had inserted all these in my Budget Speech perhaps there might not have been any trouble at all on this simple item. But they did not do it. In the note which they printed for the Cabinet Meeting of 2nd July 1946, the Finance department referred to this

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matter in this way :—‘ Provision of one crore may be made for the Removal of general disabilities and for Harijan Uplift in select areas of each district. A scheme for this will be drawn up very shortly. A copy of the Prime Minister’s note explaining the general scope of this note is circulated with this notice. If a provision of 4 crores is made in the Revised Budget for 1946-47 for the above two schemes, it is likely that a large portion of it will lapse and it is also against the spirit of the rules to make lump sum provision for schemes, the financial implications of which have not been fully considered. It is therefore suggested that to give effect to the policy of the Ministry, a special Fund may be constituted for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift and a sum of 4 crores may be transferred to it from the Revenue Account. If such a Fund is opened the Government could draw on it as and when necessary and the unspent balance will be available for expenditure in future years. The present large balance in the Revenue Reserve Fund makes this the appropriate time for constituting such a Fund. If this view is accepted, a sum of 4 crores may be shown in the Revised Budget for transfer to the Special Fund.’ This is the real object, the real history. It is not out of my ignorance or that of the Finance department. Everybody levelled an attack upon it. I am sorry for it. I do not blame the hon. Members who are led to believe like that, because all that I have read to you are printed in a special note prepared for the Cabinet. This did not appear in my budget speech. Therefore it is that you were led to believe like that and level your criticisms on this point. I want to say this point first because everything depends on that.

“ Now what about the schemes? The schemes were sent, though late, to the Finance department, but they could not be printed by that time. Later we came here and tried to put our ideas in proper form. One scheme has been placed in your hands—the scheme that covers a good portion of the Rs. 2 crores. Some of my friends blamed us saying why should such amount be wasted on charkas—this ancient method of spinning? Let me tell my hon. Friends that this method though ancient had been abandoned for various reasons. Since its abandonment the troubles of this country started. Food and cloth are the only two things for which all man’s troubles come about, and all the wars are waged between countries and countries. Everywhere where there is overcrowding, they want expansion and they look round and see whether they should start a fight and which country they should occupy. We have been victims in that way for a long time. We have been struggling in our old ways. Now so far as our cloth business is concerned, I do not want to make a long speech. The scheme is a well-prepared scheme. Friends picked out a few words here and a few words there from the Textile Commissioner’s draft and said ‘ There is compulsion there and there is compulsion here ’. There is compulsion in our very existence in this world. I believe they meant compulsion of that type. There is no compulsion here of any kind. We simply tell the people ‘ Well, I am sending this to you ; if you do not take it, such and such a thing will follow ’. Where is compulsion here? We are making laws for the guidance

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of the people. Every direction given is for their own interests. When such is the case, where is the compulsion you talk about? They are the people who have been reduced to utter helplessness in these days. Go to any village and see in what condition the people are living and what funds they have got. Even to invest some money in a small charka which you despise so much is not possible for them. They are not able to buy cotton or silver. They will not be able to carry out the scheme. Please, do not judge them from your standpoint as you live in the City of Madras or in some big towns. Go into the country and see how they are living to-day and on what they are living to-day. You take money from them; you collect taxes from them. The hon. Mr. Gopalakrishnayya charged us with collecting taxes from them. Yes, the Government had been taking taxes from them. Where did it go? Did the man who paid the tax get anything in return in any form? No. Here, all that we are doing is, seeing the helplessness of these people, to approach the villager in different places with charkas made of jungle wood and not of teak wood and distribute them, so that each house will have a charka. That is the money advance. We do not give it away as a free advance. Those who are able to pay must pay the cost of it and take it. To those who are not so fortunate as that, we give the charka for a lower price. For a third class of people who are utterly helpless we stipulate certain conditions while giving the charka and recover the cost in instalments. That is the scheme that has been put before you. Our weavers will weave the yarn spun on the charka. They are used to it. They have been making cloth on the handlooms and meeting the needs of the whole population of India. From Cape Comorin to the Himalayas in every village they were giving the required cloth for the people, and sending the surplus out of the country on ships in exchange for gold and silver in those days. They had the skill in their fingers, but they were not free to carry on the trade. You are talking of compulsion to-day! When I say I take this money, train men with the money in my hands, offer facilities to the villagers to spin and enable them to clothe themselves with the aid of the charka and cotton, how can you say that there is compulsion? Those that are not for it would certainly complain. The country has been prepared for this business for 25 years. But they did not have the facilities, they did not have the money. The All-India Spinners' Association founded by a leader like Mahatma Gandhi has been carrying on this business for 26 years. My hon. friend Mr. Ibrahim asked how many bales they could produce even after these 25 years. Even if they could not produce more than 200 bales, it is an achievement. I may tell my hon. friend for this khadi at one time, people were ready to throw themselves into the jails and into the fire and obey whatever directions were given by the Congress. They were ready to do anything. I must tell you the villages that were reconstructed by us could produce all the cloth required by them. They could produce food too. They kept a register and entered the civil and criminal disputes among them on payment of a small fee of 4 annas, and the plaintiffs and defendants appeared there and spoke for themselves, and settled

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3-30 P.M. their disputes. I know that in that village those people were attacked and lathi-charged and their back was broken until this work was abandoned by them. In that way, the All-India Spinners' Association work could not be got through for 25 years. You come and see these workers at the end of the year in these firkas. In what form you will find them you will know. It is because people have put their own men as Ministers; otherwise do you mean to say it would have been possible. There is no question of one community or another community. I may tell my hon. friends, particularly the Muslim brethren here, if you go to the districts with me you will see so many Muslim ladies are spinning, so much clothing has been made out of the yarn spun by them, fully engaged in the work and from inside their doors getting money for their living. This has got a potentiality which you will not be able to see to-day but which you will be able to see 12 months hence when you go and see there what is going on. There will be no need for me to tell you, if this khadi business is worked up for 12 months from to-day, that all the people, men and women, young and old, in those firka villages totalling about 500 to 600 in all the 24 districts will be working up and making their own cloth. I want to tell you about the weavers also. There have been weavers using this yarn for making their own cloth on their own looms whenever they got mill yarn. Human nature is after getting some pleasure and getting some profit without much labour and much trouble. Their hands refused to take to this handspun yarn during the last 25 years however much you may try. I took the looms and the weavers to a village which I was engaged in developing myself and put them there on the work but the weaver would not halt there, he would run away. But now they have got used to it; you see what representations they are making now. Whatever people may be talking about, the weavers would be working on the looms in each firka in the area. So far as cloth is concerned the whole thing will become an accomplished fact.

"Then, Sir, the hon. Mr. Farookhi said 'Why are you leaving off the mills and going back to the ancient things?' In the other house, one friend said it was the bullock-cart policy. Yes, it is a bullock-cart policy. If it is to be a bullock-cart policy the bullock-cart has not left this country even though so many people have come and gone as Governors or as rulers. In any country would such things be abandoned altogether? We are not satisfied with having bullock-cart policy here. We are now bent upon making each firka and each village a perfect one, not with the bullock-cart, but with your electricity, with water-supply, with pumping of water and cultivating within that area all that will be required there—you will know these will be the results of what is now being done in these firkas. All over the world it is said having regard to the increase in birth-rate that arrangements should be made for supplying food for a greater number of people; there is not enough land and unless you develop cottage industries your requirements cannot be produced. That has been the cry all over the world and that has been the advice given everywhere. Sir, we had cottage

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industries, but they vanished as birds fly into the sky; we had cottage industries in every village, all of them have disappeared. To-day with your co-operation and with your permission we are going to have those cottage industries suited and adapted to the needs of each village in each firka. Within 12 months from now you will see what cottage industries have come up. Each firka will become a perfect ideal area. You have so many departments in which cottage industries can be encouraged. We have requested the Textile department to take it up with a view to increase the supply of cloth. We cannot of course produce cloth for the whole nation in one day. But to enable people to get their own cloth in due time the Textile department must enter this business. There are experts in the Textile department and in the Industries department. They have put their hands already to this business and will be able to give a scheme before long and I will be able to announce the same before the Budget Session is over. Nobody in the firka would be obliged to go and purchase cloth from the nearest town. You will agree this is not a thing that can be accomplished by any amount of preaching. Preaching alone will not enable people to do this. What is wanted is that they should be helped, not by way of encouraging them to go the nearest toddy shop, but by saying, 'you fellows have been suffering, here is money, we give you this, we put you on your own legs, you do this business to have your own food and your own cloth in your own place and other articles here just as you will find them in towns and cities.' The firkas will then really become habitable places and self-supporting and self-sufficient. Therefore do not treat this lightly. It is not for the sake of pleasure; it is not for the sake of spending away the little money that we have got that we are taking up this scheme.

"Then, Sir, I come to prohibition. Prohibition is the basis of the entire scheme. Prohibition must be started. Just imagine for yourselves, if you start from the top without preparing from the bottom, helping them to have their own houses, giving them their cloth and enabling them to produce their own food—you can imagine what will be the position. Anybody who is stronger in feeling than all of us who are Ministers to-day may say this prohibition may be introduced at one stretch in one lump in all the 24 districts. I am a man who will myself plunge into it provided we don't become bankrupt at once and we have other money to carry on the business of Government. You should not be carried away by your mere enthusiasm. I am one who has got faith in it. We will do it; none of us think it is an impossible thing. It is quite possible. I know all the 24 districts every nook and corner, from one end to the other, I know my people. I know what they can do provided you give them a little help. You say prohibition we can have at once in all the 24 districts. If that is possible do you think we will hesitate to do that, we will not hesitate.

"I shall now read a short note on this question of prohibition. As announced by me prohibition will be extended to the districts of Coimbatore, Kurnool, Anantapur and Bellary. The loss from

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Excise revenue in respect of these districts in a full year is as follows :—

				LAKHS.					LAKHS.
Coimbatore	..	..	..	146.08	Anantapur	..	..	..	41.23
Kurnool	..	..	..	48.18	Bellary	..	..	..	42.35

All the three districts, Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool put together will not be equal to Coimbatore in regard to revenue from arrack and toddy shops. The total loss on this account will be 277.84 lakhs or 2 crores and 78 lakhs. The loss of revenue in respect of the four districts already included in the budget is 230 lakhs in a full year. Thus, the 8 districts now going to be undertaken will involve a total loss of 5.08 crores. It will be just about the amount that we are getting on the Sales Tax now. For each year it is very nearly the revenue from the General Sales Tax. I may assure the House that we have included the above four districts in addition, in order to show the earnestness and anxiety of myself and the Cabinet to respond to the wishes of this House and of the people of our Province for prohibition. We are no less anxious than anyone else, here or outside, to achieve full prohibition at the earliest possible moment. In fact, in my budget speech I have already given the assurance that we shall achieve full prohibition within the course of three years. Keeping that in view it will be our endeavour to explore all possibilities so that that goal might be attained. The difficulties of having full prohibition in all the districts at one and the same time are very real. Unless we can augment our resources by additional taxation to cover up the loss of revenue under this head, the financial position and credit of this Government will be seriously impaired. It will not be the part of wisdom to use up the present reserves. Of course, some friends are under the impression that the present reserves can be used for anything and everything and that we have also drawn from them recklessly. It will not be the part of wisdom to introduce immediate and total prohibition without augmenting our reserves by additional taxation. Further the balance in the revenue reserve has been built up from the year 1943 as a result of the decision of the previous Government to impose considerable additional taxation in that year as an anti-inflationary measure and as a result of expenditure having been kept down by the previous Government at a low level during the war with a view to spending the accumulated reserve after the war on post-war development schemes. The reserves are necessary to be kept and safeguarded in order that they may be utilised for the main purpose for which the previous Government earmarked them, namely, the working out of postwar development. Unless these reserves are so used, the Central Government are likely to reconsider their generous offer to assist postwar development in our Province by means of grants from the Centre. Unless the industries and other economic requirements of our Province are fully planned and developed, there will be no hope of prosperity. It will therefore be very unwise as has been rightly suggested by several hon. Members of this House to use and exhaust the reserve fund for the sake of introducing immediate prohibition in the Province.

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The Ministry will in the interval of time left to them between now and the presentation of the next budget examine the financial and administrative difficulties in the way of introduction of total Prohibition earlier than in three years and if feasible they will introduce it in a shorter time. After giving the matter full consideration, the Government will lay before the House its proposals. That, Sir, is the sum and substance of the whole prohibition business.

“Of course, as was pointed out by Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar the budget proposals ought not to have been given in advance to one party only excluding the others. My friends, it was never intended to be done like that. Because prohibition is the biggest and the foremost question, friends who felt very seriously that the whole country should be made dry with the money in the reserve fund raised the point; they raised it without knowing exactly what the implications would be. After struggling with them—they have also been struggling with me with a view to understand the constitutional position and other things—we have been able to understand each other and come to an agreement without disclosing any of the other items of the budget. Even that we could have avoided. It was again my own mistake. We have had the party meetings in a room here in the Fort St. George without shutting out all the other people including pressmen. I always expected the Press to understand that party meetings were not open to the public and the Press when they are not invited. Even then we could have done everything in a different way. We are learning by these mistakes and we are benefiting even in this respect. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar referred to the practice in England and other countries and asked what should be the fate of any Government here if budget proposals were allowed to leak out beforehand and people affected by taxation were enabled to make their own adjustments to circumvent the Government's proposals. All these things are really understood now. As I said the other budget proposals were not placed before the party meetings. They were not discussed and they did not come to any decision about them. I would have failed in my duty if, when there was such a feeling, I had not allowed the Members to express themselves so that we could adjust the matters. When the feeling was there I did not like halfway compromises. They were willing not to have any more additions this year; if possible we shall next year go in for the whole lot of them. As responsible people we will have to consider next year whether we will be able to do the whole thing and what the position will be then. Under these circumstances we took this decision, although it is not usual to interfere with the budget when once it has been presented. If you feel there had been any violation of a technical rule we will ask you not to take it that we intended to violate that rule at all. In matters like this it is not only the party and the Government in office but also others who will be entitled to the information, and in future this will be kept in mind and business will be conducted in a suitable manner.

“Well, Sir, I do not think I will be able to do justice to this business. I have to get away to another place. I shall try to come

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here by 7 o'clock if you will kindly permit Mr. President. After finishing my business in the other place if hon. Members will permit me I would like to come back here and continue my speech. (A voice: 'Why not 8 o'clock tomorrow morning?') It may be inconvenient but just as you like please."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" Is it possible to adjourn to tomorrow, dates having been fixed. (After a pause.) I am told it is not possible to adjourn. We must finish at any time today."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I will come here by 7 p.m. and then continue even if it be till 9 o'clock. I do not mind it. The other day we had to sit till 9-30 in the other House."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" It is the month of Ramzan and it is not possible for Members, Muslim members on this side, to meet at 7 p.m. because that is the time for breaking the fast."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM (continuing after informal consultation with the Hon. President) :—" As regards Coimbatore I have had some personal experience of the conditions there. The people of the district have been very enthusiastic. There are many mills there on which depend our future supply of cloth for the Province. But these mills failed at a time when we were not getting good supply from outside. Even in England mills on which people depended largely vanished immediately after the war began. How much time they take in other countries to revive them and how much money they have invested there, we can have no idea about that. You may ask me 'Why do you waste money on the charka and the wheel.' I may tell you we are not wasting any money on the charka and the wheel. We are doing a thing which will inure for hundreds and thousands of years provided we are not thrown into the sea and somebody else takes the whole administration into his hands and attempts to drive the mill industry. Allow me to tell you that in front of one of these mills one labourer was murdered and in front of another mill there was great trouble, and there were quarrels going on among the labourers. Sir, there are leaders of these labourers and these leaders lead the strikes and the whole world is going to dogs, is vanishing into ashes and earth. What is the good of the leaders saying: the strikes of these labour unions will continue let the rest of the world go to dogs. For actually in Coimbatore people working in the same mill formed themselves into two groups, one opposed to the other and fighting among themselves and they murdered one man. All the culprits could not be traced and brought to book. In the other place also the same thing happened. At that time, I told them that I had a desire to declare the whole Coimbatore district, particularly the mill area as a Prohibition area straightaway, but I could not do it unless I came to Madras and put it up before the Cabinet. That is what I felt then. When I expressed that feeling here each of one of my friends demanded that total Prohibition should be introduced there; friends working in that area, who have been watching the whole thing told me how their own movements have been interrupted and obstructed on account of this

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drink business and about the evil that had been wrought among the poor labouring classes. So we included Coimbatore and the other three districts which are comparatively small districts.

“Turning now to the cloth business, I happened to go to Coimbatore just for a day. I might be doing work here going through hundreds of files that are coming up day after day and night after night. But what could I gather by simply going through the papers? I could not get into the soul of the whole matter. So after going there I requested the Collector to have a conference of all the mill-owners and all the union workers’ representatives. In that conference for the first time I came to know the real thing. As I told you I am a layman but I am able to understand by going into the mill and seeing the business. I could understand at a glance. I went to all the places and saw things with my own eyes. What did I learn there? You have been saying: ‘You cannot stop corruption, you said you would stop corruption. You cannot do it in six months or even in six years you may not be able to do it at all.’ Some of my own sincere friends said so. They were justified because they do not know what I happened to know on a single day. I found out where the mistake was and how this mischief was going on. Bales after bales of cloth were produced but they did not go into the country for distribution among the people who were waiting for the cloth but they went into the black-market. Definition of black-market, God alone knows. There is not a place where there is no black-market. Ever since we came out of the jail we were trying to find out the black-market. It was in the railway ticket, it was everywhere; wherever you turned there was black-market. You cannot give any definition for this term ‘black-market.’ As a result of the experience gained in Coimbatore, we are going to adopt a different method of procuring these bales of yarn and distributing them among the masses for being woven into cloth. That method will be announced in a day or two; or I may tell you now straightaway without taking too much time or going through any memorandum. With regard to the procurement and distribution of food, we decided at the very outset to remove all the middlemen and to form committees for arranging to distribute the food. We have not perfected it and some friends have been pointing out where these defects exist. We are prepared to go into these defects and remedy them. Our idea which will come into force very soon is that the bales that are produced in the mills should be handed over to us direct in the mill premises. Sir, there are technical difficulties in regard to those things. The rules framed by the Government of India are a great handicap to us. I was telling the Food Commissioner yesterday about what we propose to do is to take delivery of the bales direct from the mills, but according to existing rules, we cannot take delivery of the bales direct except through a licensee. So, we are having a licensee and we propose taking delivery from him, giving it straightaway into co-operative societies and then arrange for distributing the cloth. By this method, I am hoping that blackmarketing will come to a close and all the black-marketeers who have been corrupting the whole country, corrupting this, corrupting that and corrupting all of us, they will also

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disappear. That is my expectation. We have framed the scheme after having had much experience and knowing something about it. So, about the cloth situation I have stated to you exactly where we are.

“ Now Sir, when once this structure of the Village Reconstruction organization goes on, you can picture to yourself, as I am able to picture to myself, and when it comes into existence, you will see that the man who works there, gets anything and everything he wants. I know this because, I was myself working there and I know that when the whole thing is completed, when the cloth is made there, the food is made there, there will be no room for corruption. The officers whom we propose to send out from this Government—from the Textile or the Industries or the Health department or any other department—are not expected to stay on there, drawing their salaries as they are doing in their departments. What these officers are expected to do is to go there just to train those people until they are able to take charge of the business in their own hands as soon as money is advanced to them. There are so many men in the departments without having anybody to call them and requisition their services. These *firkas*, when they are made ready, will not be in the hands of the Textile Commissioner's assistants or any other of our own Government servants and in a couple of years' time, these officers must have been able to complete the *firka* work as far as this purpose is concerned and then go to the next *firka* and then to some other *firka*. I am not thinking that we will be obliged to take up each *firka* of each taluk in each district and work it up in the manner in which we will be doing in the first year. This is merely to show to them how Government can go to their rescue to enable them to take up the work in their own hands. Sir, very shortly, we will be placing before you a scheme relating to what is called the Village Panchayat, or the Village Republic Scheme—I would prefer to call it Village Republic as Dr. John suggested. We are talking of village republics today, these village republics existed in the past and now they have gone to the dust. Yet, the principles are there but they have been handed down from generation to generation. So far as this *firka* work is concerned, it is a work that will be permanent. When once people are able to realise the good effects of the scheme, it will continue for hundreds and thousands of years.

“ Sir, my friends were very keen on attacking the educational system—the Wardha system of basic education. What is this basic education? If Mr. Farookhi goes with me to the place where this basic education is working in practice, he will at once find what it is and then he will not have any political prejudices in his mind. As a matter of fact, I myself went and saw actually in Wardha where Mr. Ariyanayagam, the famous man, does his work and how he trains all the little boys from the age of 6 to 8. The staff there are producing very good things and I myself purchased some of the goods made by those boys and girls. They are as a matter of fact much stronger than the goods which may be made by yourself and myself with our weak hands and weak nerves. I also saw basic

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education in another place, not in Wardah but in one place called Koilkuntla where one teacher had to teach about 50 children from the age of 5 to 8. I was surprised at the way in which these young children were doing their work with their hands. I have, of course, a great mind to get that teacher down here and utilize his services if it were possible. We have not forgotten it, but we have given it up. When this scheme is placed before the country again and boys are trained for some years together, you will see how fit they will be when they join schools or take to any other course. The real potentiality of basic education lies in this. A boy of 6 or 7 years of age knows exactly how to live, how to get on with the whole business, from building his own house, from making his own cot, his own doors, windows, frames and all that. If you go at the end of the year to any of these firkas, you will find how carpentry work and all these village works have developed; for instance, how the shoe-makers whom for years we have condemned, and looked down upon as ancient, will be doing their work in leather works in latest methods as is being done in the Arts school or any other established firms and give an account of themselves.

"In the same way about the Health Department. Let me tell you something about this. I called the Director of the Public Health Department and put a question to him. Of course, we want the activities of the Health Department also to go into the firkas for the establishment of village sanitation. He brought with him all his files and showed me what preparations he had made already for the development of the village even in regard to sanitation. You will not be surprised if even your flush-out system is established in the firkas if you go there after 12 months. That is the way in which we propose to carry on this work. I am not saying this to show how this money is going to be spent. That is why, having regard to the whole volume of business, we selected one firka for each district. That is the highest service that we could do to the village.

"Coming to the question of labour, some points were sought to be made or given as pieces of advice to this Government. What this Government is doing, I will state in brief. The Labour policy of the Government of Madras has been made clear in their Communiqué of the 30th April 1946. Internal settlement of all trade disputes between employers and workers are being encouraged and followed. According to this direction, the Labour Commissioner settles disputes and if this policy fails boards of conciliation and adjudicators are constituted. During the last three months of the existence of the Congress Government, there were 90 trade disputes and most of them were settled, except in regard to 14 cases where settlement was not possible and the workmen resorted to strike, though we have extended the Weekly Holiday Act. We propose to extend them to major panchayats, part of the Maternity Benefits Act is being liberalized by bringing in an amending Bill. Government contemplate legislation in the matter of settlement of trade disputes by the establishment of Industrial courts, etc. Lastly, legislation is also contemplated for the benefit of shop-assistants and unregulated factory workers. Here, let me say a few

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words. My Hon. Colleague, Mr. Giri, is an expert in these matters. The way in which he managed to settle all the troubles that had arisen during the last three months here in our province and the big troubles that have arisen on account of the strikes in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills and in the Spencer Company and the way in which Mr. Giri tried to complete his work, bring the parties together, was responsible for saving the situation in the city with regard to both the strikes. When it became absolutely impossible and difficult, we put our heads together and called the people themselves in one place and tried to settle the matter and we actually settled the matter. These are the methods that may well be adopted by anybody in regard to such disputes, either by the Government of India or by other provinces. So, Mr. P. R. K. Sarma need not be worried that Government will be failing in their duty. Sometimes, we look round for some friends who will be helpful in bringing round the ignorant people who follow wrong paths and if we do not get proper friends, things will go wrong. That is why I appeal to all those who are engaged in mills or connected with mills and mill-workers, they must be very careful, they must feel that they are the Government themselves and try to do everything possible before allowing people to declare strikes. Again, Sir, even in regard to strikes themselves—they number about 14,000 in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills—how long they could continue the strike and how long they could go starving? They will go and attack the Government and the Prime Minister, not once, but twice and three times. As a matter of fact, hundreds of men and women came out. In those circumstances, the workers do not know the consequences of strikes. For one day, it is all right but when it extends to one month or more, what will be the amount of loss to be incurred. When I asked the proprietor of the Mills, he said that nearly 15 lakhs was the loss sustained during the period. So, Sir, patience is required, intelligence is required and study is required and you will have to regulate the whole affair, so that people will not be misled into these so-called strikes.

“ Sir, what I wanted to say about cloth is this. Government will be putting into effect very shortly a scheme for preventing unscrupulous mills from diverting into the black-market yarn and cloth not shown by them in their returns to the Textile Control authorities. Steps are also being taken to ensure that no yarn or cloth is moved from mills in violation or evasion of the control measures. The Government expect black-marketing in yarn and cloth at other stages to be put down to a considerable extent with the assistance of the Village and Town Committees constituted under their recent orders. It is also proposed to eliminate black-marketing in yarn by weavers by adopting the following measures, as far as possible :

(a) by organizing co-operative societies for weavers which will see to the conversion of all the yarn given to them into cloth and to the marketing of the cloth at reasonable prices; and

(b) by making arrangements under which every weaver or master weaver will have to account for all the yarn received by him before he can get the next supply of yarn.

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“ Government also propose to pursue a policy of eliminating unnecessary middlemen as the most effective way of putting down violations and evasions of the textile control measures. Government would issue orders shortly for the issue of ration cards for mill yarn to coolie weavers who have left their master weavers and have acquired looms on which they can work as genuine independent weavers.

“ Now, Sir, some of my hon. Friends criticized the administration of the Health Minister, Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi. If you had only known how she had been working ever since she took up this office, you will be astonished to see that she has been able to do so much and with what zeal and enthusiasm, the lady Minister is applying herself to the administration of the Province, you can never understand. I should not flatter her if she is anywhere near here.

“ About Indian Medicine, what we propose to do is this. The intention of the Government is to implement the recommendations of the Usman Committee, which were accepted by this Government nearly 20 years ago, where it is stated, that the aim of studies in Indian Medicine, shall be to create practitioners in Indian Medicine, who are proficient in Indian Medicine and who, at the same time, possess a working knowledge of the Western System of Medicine. Nothing prevents the students of Indian Medicine from having access to the latest advances of Modern Science, such as ‘ X ’ Rays, Radium and Laboratory facilities for better diagnosis of diseases. It is a mistake to think that the future Ayurvedic practitioners will not know even the simple methods of examining urine, motion, blood, etc. Their curriculum will include these examinations both theoretical and practical. They will also conduct such other examinations as a general practitioners can do with ease. But instead of attempting to do some of these delicate tests themselves, they will be taught to refer them to experts as every general practitioner has to do, however great his qualifications may be in western medicine.

“ If you go into the history of Ayurveda, you will find there was a period in Indian History when the Ayurveda Avatar was the absolute ruler of the whole of India during that age. If you go into the details you will find to what extent they were proficient in surgery and in every other matter. We have gone down now with regard to charka, yarn and cloth and such other things. Of course, these also have got into trouble. Any attempt made by those who started the Indian System of Medicine, did not succeed. My old friend Raja Ramarayaningar was responsible for starting it. I know him. He was on the other side. I was against him politically in certain matters. He used to tell me what he had to do in order to get certain things with the consent of the Governor of those days and how he was prepared to chuck up his job if it were necessary. The Ministry should not wait for anybody—Ministries may come and go; people are there. They are the people who will dismiss the Ministers if they go wrong and put in better Ministers who will render a better account of them.

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“As regards the special advantages of studying Indian Medicine and the superiority of Indian Medicine over the Western, it is not for anyone who has no knowledge at all of Indian Medicine to judge. If any such opinion has to be pronounced, one has only to study the Thridosha Theory which is perfectly scientific and which is understood to a certain extent even by the lay people in India. All those who have studied both the sciences have expressed their expert opinion highly commending a systematic study of the ancient, yet most scientific, system of Indian Medicine. It is their opinion that Indian Medicine is far more scientific in certain essentials than the modern western system which, according to them, is an infant science yet groping in the dark. They claim that Ayurveda begins where allopathy ends. Allopathy deals only with the material body whereas Ayurveda deals with much more than the material body. This is responsible for the rules of conduct and high civilization that an Indian enjoys to-day. One who has not studied the Indian System has no claim to pronounce any opinion upon its merits and defects. This is common sense. As regards the utility of the practitioners of Indian Medicine in the field of Public Health and prevention of infectious diseases, such knowledge as is necessary for improving sanitation and for combating epidemics will form part of their studies. The student will however not be burdened with the unnecessary details that he is sure to forget before he becomes a qualified practitioner and that will not be useful to him in general practice. The curriculum is also so framed as to give the alumni of the colleges the requisite skill in conducting surgical and obstetric work in cases of emergency. But it cannot be expected that every practitioner of Indian Medicine will be a specialist in all departments. It is the intention of the Government that these practitioners should specialize in medical treatment, although the principles of Surgery, Obstetrics, Radiology, Bacteriology, etc., will not be unknown to them. In addition to the proposed five colleges in Indian Medicine, it is the earnest desire of this Government to start a first-class research institute to be manned by experts of both the systems of medicine under the control of a Research Council of Indian Medicine as early as possible. Both clinical and literary research will be conducted here and the Government expect the co-operation of all those who are interested in scientific advancement of the medical science without the distinction of the East and the West. There is not much difference of opinion between the hon. Member and the Government as it is their policy to subject Indian Medicine to all tests of modern science and the Government are confident that Indian Medicine will stand these tests if they are conducted without bias or prejudice. The expansion of this department, the Government hope, will give opportunities for such tests being conducted and that an ultimate synthesis of a national system of Indian Medicine will result thereby.

“As regards the latter part of the hon. Member's address, it may be stated here that it is under the consideration of the Government to introduce a legislation to prohibit improper advertisements regarding cures of epilepsy, sexual debility, etc., but this remedy

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should be applied to such advertisements published by Allopathic as well as Ayurvedic practitioners. In this matter the Ayurvedic physician is the lesser culprit because his preparations are generally foolproof.

"The Government will certainly satisfy themselves as regards the standard of the products as tested by experts if and when they purchase medicines and biological products from Indian firms.

"Sir, one word about Naturopathy and Homeopathy. Homeopathy cannot exist by itself unless it is associated with Ayurveda. That is the result arrived at by great experts. So, we have also recognized Naturopathy. Naturopathy is a system which has been in existence in this country and also in Europe for over nearly 75 years. I had been, Sir, to Leipzig where I saw the author of Naturopathy, Mr. Luis Kuhne. I went there because I had studied books on that subject already and begun to practise that whenever it was necessary. I went there just to see at first hand how it was being worked there. He was complaining in those days, about 40 years ago, that others had been stealing from his book. That gentleman is no more now.

"Naturopathy has been practised for nearly more than 50 years in Andhra Desa—I have known its work for more than 50 years and I have also known its results almost to perfection. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi who was not inclined to accept Naturopathy until very recently has now taken to the Naturopathy system. That is why he is staying in Poona, so that he can have the benefits of the services of experts there. All these things have to be encouraged. In regard to Homeopathy, Sir, I tested it myself. Where other systems failed, it has succeeded. I know it. In my own house I put it to test on my own son. Although it is not an absolutely genuine system like Ayurveda, yet it is a wonderful system. Ayurveda was taken up and improved upon by American scientists almost to perfection and by synthesis they have shown to us how great it is.

"Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar suggested that Government should introduce post-graduate courses in Ayurveda in the Medical College. Although we are not experts in any of these matters, we, our Government, and everyone of us, is anxious to learn everything at the shortest period possible and make use of them to the extent it is possible. Government will give all facilities if the Madras and Andhra Universities are prepared to introduce post-graduate courses on the above lines.

"Now, coming to the Public Works Department, Sir, a lot of criticism was made in the other House and we have to give a reply to the points raised. The Public Works Workshops cater to the needs of the Tungabhadra and the Ramapadasagara Projects as well as to various other works connected with Public Works divisions in the Presidency especially with reference to mechanical and engineering works. They also undertake the purchase, supply, repairs, manufacture, inspection as well as construction of mechanical structures for the irrigation works, roads and buildings of the Public Works Department. They also attend to the repairs,

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maintenance and running of machinery for the various projects. They also undertake the repair and manufacture of various small instruments, etc., required for the gauging and testing instruments connected with the projects. They have also undertaken the works connected with the Strathie Co-operative Engineering Works for demobilized men and are also busy with the manufacture of transmission towers for the Government Electricity Department. In addition to the double-shift work in the workshops a night shift has been started to provide work for the demobilized men. The workshops also train apprentices of the School of Technology. One seat is specially reserved for candidates recommended by the Borstal School. So you will find that the workshops have not been idle.

"About the food situation, Sir, I would like to make a few remarks. Reference was made to the State Trading Scheme and the amount spent on it. I do not want to take you into all the details of the state of affairs when we came to take charge of the office with regard to the food situation. We have done so under the most difficult conditions. Since then we have done and are doing everything possible to avert a food crisis if and when starvation comes and people begin to drop down as flies, as was the case in Bengal and other places. So, it was with great anxiety that we had to go through the costly business of securing food. We are making supreme efforts to get as much food as possible. On one item, milk alone, the previous Government had ordered from outside countries milk products worth about 2½ crores. If we had been in office at that time, we would have tried to stop these things, but could not stop them today suddenly. We could stop them only to the extent to which the goods had not arrived here. With regard to the goods that have been ordered and put into boats for coming here, we could not do anything with them, but with regard to future supply we issued instructions not to send anything further. In this light, if you examine the Adviser budget and our own budget, you will find that we are doing everything in our power to improve the food situation. Therefore, I would request hon. Members not to take up one item here and another item there and try to judge the whole situation by what happened in those very very difficult times. In the case of imports from outside the province, all food-grains are sold at subsidized rates. The State Trading Schemes will necessarily show a loss. This loss is the result of subsidizing as the prices of food-grains are to be kept within the means of the poor and this point has been conceded to a certain extent.

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P.M.

"There are very slight variations in the price of food-grains. The rise in the cost of living from time to time is due to the rise in the prices of other minor commodities like chillies, oils, pulses, and services, etc. Control over the entire field of articles of consumption and services is an unmanageable undertaking but wherever it is found that the price of any particular commodity has gone unduly high, Government will take immediate steps to bring it down. It is true that the price of Sind wheat products was higher than the price of wheat products imported from Australia. Allotments are made by the Government of India and Madras, in view of

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its urgent need of food-grains, is not in a position to dictate terms. The grains have to be purchased at the rate charged by the supplying Governments. As the price was very high in some cases, the Government of India have fixed a statutory maximum price for wheat in supplying Provinces. But that is not going to affect us, and all the allotments, in recent months, of wheat products are from imports overseas.

“ There has been some criticism that minority communities have not been properly represented in Village Committees and that Muslims have not secured adequate representation, particularly in Malabar. Instructions have already been issued to all the Collectors to see that the officers in charge of the constitution of these Committees take good care to see that all communities are properly represented. Special instruction has been issued in the case of Malabar to see that there is adequate Muslim representation in the Village Committees. It is understood that in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks large numbers of Moplahs have taken shares in the Producer cum Consumer Co-operative Societies, and everywhere the election of the directors was unanimous. In two places Moplahs have been elected Presidents. In Ernad and Walluvanad, Congress and Muslim League M.L.As. sat together and the decision in regard to the representation of communities was unanimous and the Muslim League has been given representation.

“ There have been complaints from some districts against the constitution of the Committees. Parliamentary Secretaries are being deputed to examine these reports and settle the disputes in consultation with the local authorities. I hope that when the selection of the Committees is finally completed, all interests will be satisfied. If there are still any glaring inequalities or injustices the Government will set them right. These Committees have a very important part to play in the distribution schemes and all other matters affecting the village welfare. As these Committees are only just being formed, it is too soon to express an opinion about their work. I suggest that they be given a fair chance before they are judged.

“ The Government of India have called for a Conference of Food Ministers on the 9th and 10th of this month to survey the food position. Every effort will be made to secure from the Government of India as large a share of imports of rice from overseas as possible to improve the rice position in the Province. The Food Commissioner came here yesterday and myself and some of my friends were obliged to be present there and to be absent from this House. Their absence was felt by some hon. Friends opposite. I will explain once again that every one of my friends is anxious to get at every criticism and see that whatever is possible is done to comply with the request made by hon. Members here.

“ Now, Sir, I would like to say a few words on education. There has been much criticism of our education policy. In this respect we have not had enough time to evolve a definite and settled policy. Education policy cannot be carved out in separate bits. It must be a wholesale reconstruction, and reconstruction is needed. My own

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feeling is that the Universities Act should be revised, and that the system of education which has been obtaining hitherto in these Universities must also change. Everything necessary and convenient for this country must be introduced. I see boys in the City of Madras running up and down for admission into colleges. The rules framed under the old regime are such that all and sundry could get admissions into colleges, professional and arts. I was sorry that I was not able to help these students. One backward class student ran up to me from Cuddapah. He wanted admission in the Engineering College. It was not possible for me to get admission for him in the Madras Engineering College. I did not interfere direct. I did not call upon the Principal to admit the boy, because it would be wrong on my part to direct him to do any such thing contrary to rules. They would apply the rules strictly. That boy was running between my room and the Secretariat and the Principal's office and other places to which he had been directed. I suggested to the boy to run away from Madras and try his chance in Cocanada, because there is an Engineering College there, and the Vice-Chancellor gave some promise to 5 or 6 new boys. It was a pathetic sight. I do not like such a thing that we, in our own country, are not able to give the boys the benefit of college education. It is not always the first-class graduates taking first in University examinations that should go on merit. I have known many who were ploughed in other matters very badly were able to reach the top.

“Wastage of intellect in this country has been of two kinds. One is appearing for the examinations and failing. That is a common matter. Another is passing an examination and getting something which is incommensurate with his own merit and with his own ability. These inequalities should disappear. In the future system of education that we will have to build up we must however endeavour to see that only those who are fitted for clerical posts, and not every graduate, every distinguished man, that should run after some clerkship and rot and die as a clerk or on some such appointment. Therefore, our system must provide for everyone who can, after passing the Matriculation or S.S.L.C. examination, go into some Industrial School where he can learn something and get on or go into the University if he feels that he is qualified to go there. On these lines I have been thinking, and I hope we will have a Committee of Educational Experts to advise us in this respect and bring in a scheme on which the three Vice-Chancellors of the three Universities will be consulted. We shall do our best to produce a scheme of education which will be helpful to the Government and also to the people and the younger generation. Universities also will have to be recast in a different mould altogether.

“Then, Sir, please allow me before I leave this education subject, to assure my friends who have been feeling that they are being excluded altogether by the expression used by the Hon. Minister for Education and myself. The word ‘regional’ has confused you. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar also explained it with special reference to his own experience in Hyderabad. It is our duty to consider the whole matter. You will see that we did not mean—so far as the Hon. Education Minister understands, he did not

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mean—to exclude any community or any class from Education. The mother tongue is accepted by all. The mother tongue should be the medium of instruction. It is a thing which has been introduced long ago. Educational institutions are controlled by those who have to work the system that had been in force for 100 years. The word 'regional' you may take it, is equivalent to mother tongue generally. You have raised another point whether the whole of the Andhra area is Urdu or Telugu according as the Muslim population is the Urdu-speaking population. My friend is not here. He admitted he belonged to the Tamil area. He speaks the Tamil language. His mother tongue is the Tamil language. I am telling you, Sir, I am an Andhra. I have lived for such a long time not merely in Cities and Colleges and in the High Court alone. I am sure how the Muslim population started from 10, 15 or 100 years ago. We know how it was built up, and know also when this Urdu teaching was introduced into the Board schools in the villages. I know also that it does not take away the right of the people to say that they should have Urdu language also taught in the Colleges or schools. That does not interfere with the rights, as Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar pointed out when it was raised in the Hyderabad territory about the use of Urdu language alone there as it is the State language. Those friends here who were representing the Madras Province there raised the point. It is not to be so done and it should be the language of the people, the mother tongue of the people actually living there. Therefore he was laying stress upon that point. By misunderstanding the expression there may be difficulties in working the whole scheme. For that purpose, I am assuring my hon. friends that we will consider everything that is raised against it, and nothing would be forced upon anybody against his will. It is our duty to see that all are living happily and all are getting education that they would like to have, and all are getting the services that they would like to have. Regional language did not mean the exclusion of any language. The Hon. Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar explained with reference to a concrete example. If in a country there is more than one language and those languages have to be represented, certainly that can be done. It is what he said. That is what I say. Therefore there should be no misapprehension on account of the use of the words 'regional language' and we should adopt such words as would remove misunderstanding, in future when we got to the constitution of that body.

" Sir, I shall stop with this. If I have not covered other points, I have covered food, cloth and almost all the departments, as it were, within this short time. I may be excused if I have not dealt with the subjects, point by point.

" Mr. Venkataswami Naidu raised objection to the proposal that schools must be started from the surplus funds of religious endowments, and he suggested that the amount might be used for developing the villages all round those religious institutions. With all deference to Mr. Venkataswami Naidu, I should say that there is no

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greater service that any Government or any people or any human being can do than impart education to those who are not able to get education. If the temple has got surplus funds, the best that the temple authorities can make use of those funds is to impart education to all those boys and girls who are not able to pay their school fees and attend schools regularly. It is our object that God's money must be utilised for the benefit of mankind and for the little ones and not for other purposes, which may be given in kind—comforts or special luxuries—to any special class of people. It would save Government from finding the money. We want at one stretch to establish schools and Colleges in various places where there is surplus money attached to the religious institutions. Again I may say, Sir, that I wanted to introduce a proposal during this budget discussion itself converting the Tirupati College into an University. That is my desire. That I would like to do as quickly as possible. At that time I saw Tirupati funds would not permit, and was not able to deposit 10 lakhs of rupees for that University. It is not a College that should be attached to the devasthanam. It and was not able to deposit 10 lakhs of rupees for that University. that should give universal education coupled with religious education and other secular education in the sciences. That should become a model University for all other Universities. If the Tirupati College becomes an University and all the educational institutions are started with the surplus funds, we would be doing the greatest service for the cause of education and especially for the poor who are unable to wear clean clothes, pay the cost of books, fees, etc. It is no good calling the other educational institutions as being intended for the people of this country and the younger generation. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"I thank all members of this Honourable House for the cheerful manner in which they co-operated with me in getting through the very important proceedings of this House. My thanks are specially due to those hon. Members who were very anxious to speak but who were perforce denied the opportunity. They had not the pleasure of speaking themselves, but cheerfully bore the task of sitting here throughout the long, tedious hours and performed their duty of listening to other speakers. They have heard much about priority in this House, and I am sure the House will agree with me that when next time the opportunity comes, priority of a high order will be given to those members who had been denied their chance this time. (Laughter.) I would also like to mention one experience that I have gained from this debate. Opinions have been expressed from all sides of this House here that this House has the only chance of generally discussing the annual budget, whereas the other House has two chances of discussing the budget, once generally, and specifically about various grants subsequently, and also voting upon them. This House has only one chance of expressing its mind generally upon the various subjects that are mentioned in the budget. The budget is such a very important voluminous and all-embracing subject that any member who gets up to talk upon that subject is not able to control his speech and finish it within the 15 minutes or half an hour which the Chair would like to give

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him. So, in spite of my best efforts to control the speeches, I have not been able to do so. I also find that most of the members who took a long time over the speeches did not really abuse the privilege that was given to them. That time was really necessary to enable them to discharge their duties properly. I have, therefore, come to the conclusion that the time allotted to this House for general discussion of the budget is hardly sufficient and this opinion of mine is reinforced if I look at what took place in the other House where members had to sit extra hours without getting any chance of getting extra payment as their labour would have it. I therefore think that when next time days will be fixed for this all important question of budget discussion, this aspect of the matter will be taken into consideration, and at least 4 days will be allotted to this House. If I may give a recommendation to the other House also, I will certainly recommend two more days to be given to the other House. With these remarks I close the proceedings.

“ It is very likely that this House will have to meet some time in the first week of September. Some Bills are coming up for discussion, though I am not able to give the exact date now. I am, therefore, adjourning this House *sine die*. Due notice of the date in September will be given to hon. Members.”

III.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Notification appended to G.O. No. 1224, L.A., dated the 15th July 1946, making certain alteration in the jurisdiction of the Madura and Ramnad District Boards.

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TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS